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Poetry.

"IF I SHOULD DIE."

If I should die to-night,
My friends would look upon my quiet face,
Before they laid it in its resting place,
And deem it so death had left it all at fair;
And laying snow-white flowers against my hair
Would smooth it down with tearful tenderness,
And fold my hands with lingering caress—
Poor hands, so empty and so cold to-night.

If I should die to-night,
My friends would call to mind, with loving thought,
Some gentle word the fret-ful lips had said;
Some kindness which the willing feet had sped,
The memory of my selfishness and pride,
My hasty words, would all be put a life;
And so I should be loved and mourned to-night

If I should die to-night,
Fond hearts estranged would turn once more to me,
Breaking other days remorsefully,
Those that chill me with averted glance
Would look up in my face of cry for pardon,
And soften in the old familiar way—
For who would war with dumb unconscious clay?
And I might rest forgiven of all to-night.

O friends, I pray to-night,
Keep not your kisses from my dead, cold brow!
The way is lonely, let me feel them now.
Think gently of me. I am travel worn:
My faltering feet are pierced with many a thorn.
Forgive, O heart estranged, forgive I plead—
When dreamless rest is mine I shall not need
The tenderness for which I long to-night.

Our Story Teller.

THE GREAT MOGUL DIAMOND.

A Story of Mystery, Love and Adventure.

BY T. W. SPEIGHT.

CHAPTER XXV.

AT THE "ROYAL GEORGE."

On the sixth day after the arrival of Capt. Ducie at St. Helier, the Weymouth brought over two passengers who had attracted more attention from the fellow-travelers than any other two people on board on board.

The elder of the two was a white-haired venerable-looking gentleman who wore gold-rimmed spectacles, and was richly dressed in the latest style. A cap made out of the skin of some wild animal, with the tail hanging down behind, fitted his head like a helmet, and gave him quite an un-English appearance.

His companion was a very beautiful young woman of three or four and-twenty, richly, but quietly attired; evidently his daughter.

When, on the arrival of the boat, the luggage was fished out of the hold, several adventurous spirits pressed forward to read the label on the young lady's boxes. This was what rewarded their curiosity:

MISS VAN LOAL,
PASSENGER TO JERSEY.

"Drive to the 'Royal George,' said the old gentleman as he and his daughter stepped into a fly on the pier, and several of the curious who had taken him for a foreigner were surprised to find that he spoke English like one to the manor born. But had any inhabitant of Tydebury chanced to be on the pier that evening, he would have recognized in the foreign-looking gentleman and his superb daughter, two townsfolk of his own, to-wit: Mr. Solomon Madgin and his daughter Mirpah. With what objects they had come so far from home, and under an assumed name, we shall presently learn.

Capt. Ducie, cigar in mouth, was lounging at the door of the "Royal George" when the fly drove up in which Mr. and Miss Van Loal were seated. Mirpah's beauty took his eye. He removed his cigar, stepped back a pace or two, and gazed. Mirpah's eyes met his. She had a presentiment that she saw before her the Captain Ducie of whom she had read so much in her brother's reports from Bon Repos, and in whose possession the Great Mogul Diamond was said to be. Mirpah's eyes fell, a faint tinge of color came into her cheek, and she and her father passed forward into the hotel.

"By Jove!" was Capt Ducie's sole comment aloud. Then he pulled his hat farther over, his brows, resumed his cigar, and lounged off towards the pier.

This scene had been witnessed by a pale-faced, spectacled young man from a window of Button's Hotel on the other side of the way. As soon as Ducie had disappeared round the corner, this young man left his place of espionage, came out into the street, and crossed over to the "Royal George." Here he asked for and was conducted to the sitting room of Mr. Van Loal, but he sent the waiter back and opened the door of the room himself.

"My dear James!" "My dear brother!" were the exclamations that greeted his entrance.

"Hush! not quite so loud, if you please," said cautious James with a warning finger in the air. Then, having carefully closed the door, he shook his father warmly by the hand, and turned to embrace his sister. Whereupon a long conversation ensued among the three which need not be detailed here.

Instead of dining in his own room as he had hitherto done, Capt. Ducie made his appearance at the table d'hote. He went down early, and there, just as it it had been prearranged that they should meet, he found Mr. Van Loal and his daughter.

The evenings were growing rather chilly, and a small fire had been lighted. Mr. Van Loal, now stripped of his furs and appearing in ordinary evening dress, with the most expansive of shirt-fronts and the stiffest of white neckcloths, had got as near the fire as he well could, and was warming his thin white hands over the flickering blaze.

Mirpah, with one elbow resting on the chimney-piece, was standing near him, looking. Ducie thought, even more beautiful in her black filmy evening dress than she had looked in her traveling costume. One thing Ducie could not help noticing—that on the hands both of father and daughter there glittered several very magnificent rings. Other jewelry they wore none.

As Capt. Ducie advanced up the room, Miss Van Loal crossed over to the other side to look at some stuffed birds. Accidentally or purposely she dropped her handkerchief. It had scarcely touched the ground before Capt. Ducie had recovered it. With a smile and a bow he gave it back to its owner.

The ice had been broken, and presently Mr. Van Loal and the Captain were conversing easily and confidentially about the island, its history, and its climate. Mirpah glided back to her father's side. She did not join in the conversation, but once or twice Ducie caught her eyes fixed on his face with an expression in them that was flattering to his vanity.

When dinner was announced he did not fail to secure for himself the chair next to that of Mirpah. There was something about this dark-eyed beauty that took his fancy amazingly. His powers of fascination were in danger of growing rusty from disuse. He was glad that an opportunity had arisen which would allow him to prove, were it only for his own satisfaction, that his old prowess with the sex had not quite deserted him.

Here was no fashionable young lady, the butterfly of a hundred drawing rooms, to subdue; but something far more unconventional a woman altogether unused to so-called fashionable life, as his critical glance had told him in a moment; but still an undoubted lady, and the possessor of a pair of the most unfathomable eyes that his own had ever gazed into.

Therefore he sat down to the siege he had proposed to himself with an alacrity that was infinitely refreshing to him after his long severance from the delights of fema'e society.

Later on, Captain Ducie proposed a stroll along the pier. Mr. Van Loal and his daughter at once assented.

The night was warm and a full moon was sailing through the sky. Faint strains of music came wafted from afar, and mingled with the plash of the incoming tide. Could anyone have questioned Captain Ducie on the point, he would have declared that his "spooning" days had come to an end 20 years before, and he would have believed his own statement. Men in love he was in the habit of regarding with good natured cynicism as though they were in a state of temporary insanity superinduced by their own folly, and were not to be held accountable like ordinary mortals. But to-night, what with the moonlight, the music, the rythmic beat of the waves on the sand, and the propinquity of Mirpah Van Loal, Captain Ducie felt the first delicious symptoms of a fever to which his blood had been a stranger for years.

After he had parted for the night from Van Loal and his charming daughter, and was in the solitude of his own bedroom, he laughed aloud to think how very like a greenhorn who had fallen in love for the first time he had felt that evening. He recognized the feeling, and was contemptuous of himself even while revelling in the unaccustomed sweetness. It was a sweetness that waited on his dreams all the night long, and when he opened his eyes the next morning he felt as though Time's finger had moved back the figures on the dial of his life, and that he was not only a boy in years again, but also—and that would have been the greater miracle of the two—once more a boy at heart.

But he was a middle aged cynic again the moment he put his foot out of bed. There was no disenchanter like the clear, cold light of morning. It was not that he deemed Mirpah one whit less beautiful than she seemed in his eyes the night previous. He was savage with himself for allowing any woman, however fascinating she might be, to touch his cold heart with the flame of a torch that for him had long been quenched in the waters of Lethe.

Nevertheless, by the time he had discussed his breakfast, he was by no means sorry to remember that he had an engagement at 11 o'clock to drive Mr. Van Loal and his daughter to Grove-de-Lecq. It would really be a pleasant mode of spending the lazy autumn day, and he would take very good care that Mademoiselle Van Loal's witching eyes did not cast a spell round him for the second time.

Forewarned is forearmed, and, after all this experience of the sex, it would be a pitiful tale indeed if he allowed himself to be entangled by any young lady, however charming she might be, of whom, as in the present case, he knew next to nothing.

Having made this declaration to himself, he looked at his watch to see how near the time was to 11.

"Curious name, Van Loal," he muttered. "I'd Dutch? or Belgian? or what is it? It smacks of the Low Countries. The name who bears such a name ought never to drink anything weaker than Schiedam. In the present case, however, both the old boy and his daughter must be English, whatever their ancestors may have been; they speak without the slightest foreign accent. Mademoiselle talks about the old fellow having just retired from business. What business was he, I wonder? There is something cosmopolitan about him that makes it difficult to guess in what particular line he has made his money. A few indirect questions may perhaps elicit the required information; not that it matters to me in any way—not in the least."

The day was a pleasant one. Capt. Ducie drove Mr. Van Loal and his daughter to some of the prettiest spots on the island. They had an *al fresco luncheon* in a sheltered corner of a lovely bay. After the meal was over, Mr. Van Loal wandered away to ruminate by himself. Capt. Ducie and Mirpah were left to entertain each other.

Said the latter: "It is quite amusing to see papa so enthusiastic after rare ferns and mosses. It is a pursuit so totally opposed to the previous occupations of his life that on this lovely island, and amid such quiet scenes, I can almost imagine that he would gradually grow young again, as people in fairy tales are sometimes said to do, and that in this botanizing freak we have the first indication of the change."

"We cannot quite afford to have him changed into a young prince," said Ducie, "for what would become of you? You would have to diminish into babyhood, and however pleasant a state that may be, I for one cannot wish you otherwise than as you are."

"You must have graduated with honors in the art of paying compliments, Captain Ducie. Long study and the practice of many years have been needed to make you such an adept. I congratulate you on the result."

Captain Ducie laughed. "A very fair hit," he said, "but in the present case totally undeserved. Had I been a young fellow of 18 I should have blushed and fidgetted, and have thought you excessively cruel. But being an old fellow of 30 or more, I can enjoy your retort while being myself the butt at which your shaft is aimed. It speaks well for the purity of Mr. Van Loal's conscience that in the intervals of a busy life, and one which has doubtless its own peculiar cares and anxieties, he can yet enjoy so refined an amusement as that of fern hunting."

"That remark ought to elicit some information from her as to the old boy's mother," added Ducie under his breath. "Is he a retired grocer? or a sleeping partner in some old established bank?"

"Papa's life has indeed been a busy one," answered Mirpah, "but for the future, I hope that he will have ample opportunity to indulge in whatever mode of passing his time may suit his fancy best. With the real business of life, that is, with the money-making part of it, I trust that he is done forever. What his occupation was you would never guess, Captain Ducie. Come, now, I will wager you half a dozen pairs of gloves that out of the same number of guesses you do not succeed in naming papa's business—and it was a business, and in no way connected with any of the learned professions."

"Done!" exclaimed Ducie eagerly, holding out his hand to clinch the bet. The tips of Miss Van Loal's fingers rested for an instant in his palm, and Ducie felt that he could well afford to lose.

He was silent for a minute or two, pretending to think. In the end his six guesses stood as follows: he guessed that Mr. Van Loal had been either a banker, or a stock broker, or a brewer, or a drysalter, or an architect, or some sort of a contractor.

"Lost!" cried Mirpah in high glee, when the sixth guess was proclaimed. "Papa was none of these things you have named. You have not gone far enough a-field in your guesses; you have not sufficiently exercised your inventive faculties. No, Capt. Ducie, my father was neither a banker, nor anything else that you have specified. *He was a Diamond Merchant.*"

Mirpah allowed these last words to slide from between her lips as quietly as though she were making the most commonplace statement in the world, but their effect upon Capt. Ducie was apparently to paralyze his faculties for a few moments. All the color left his face; his eyes full of trouble and suspicion, sought those of Mirpah, anxious to read there whether or no she had any knowledge of his great secret—whether the stab she had given was an intentional or an accidental one. Involuntarily his hands sought the folds of his waistcoat. He breathed again; his treasure was still there. In the dark, luminous eyes of the beautiful girl before him, he read no hint of any crafty secret, of any sinister design. It was nothing more, then, than a strange coincidence. He had been fooled by his own fears. Had this Van Loal and his daughter, by some mysterious means, became acquainted with his secret, and had they come to Jersey with any ulterior designs against himself, the fact that Van Loal had been a diamond merchant would have been something to conceal as undoubtedly provocative of suspicion. The very fact of such a statement having been made was his surest guarantee that he had nothing sinister to guard against. He had frightened himself with a shadow. The magnificent diamond rings worn by the old man and his daughter were at once accounted for.

"I am afraid that you regret having made such a reckless wager," said Mirpah, with an arch look at the Captain. "But, indeed, you ought to pay your forfeit, were it only for having guessed that poor papa had been a drysalter—whatever that may be. I suppose it has something to do with the curing of herrings or hams. A drysalter!" and Mirpah's clear laugh rang out across the sands.

"I own the wager fairly lost," said Ducie, as he prepared to light a cigar, "and will cheerfully pay the forfeit. Had I guessed for a week it would still have been lost. I hardly knew that there were such people as professional diamond merchants in this country."

"They form a small corporation, it is true, but by no means an unimportant one in their own estimation. The professed jewellers, the men who keep the magnificent shops, would be but poorly off without the diamond dealers to fall back upon. We—the Van Loals—have been members of the guild for three centuries, not in England, but in Amsterdam, where our name is a name of honor. Papa was born there, but he came to England when he was a young man, and married an English girl, and from that time he has lived in the country of his adoption. He has promised that next Spring we shall visit Amsterdam together; then, for the first time I shall see the land where my ancestors lived and died."

Mr. Van Loal came up at this juncture, and the semi-confidential talk between Mirpah and Capt. Ducie came to an end.

At the table d'hote that evening Ducie sat between father and daughter. He exerted himself to the utmost to make an agreeable impression on both of them. After dinner the two men had a smoke and a stroll on the pier. They were both men of the world, and had a score of topics in common on which they could talk fluently and well. Ducie's easy, landsman's *insouciance* of looking at everything that did not impinge on his own personality formed a piquant contrast to the shrewd, calculating, matter-of-fact way of looking at the same subjects which distinguished the not-distant Van Loal. They kept each other company till a late hour.

When Ducie got to his own room he bolted the door and lighted a last cigar. He wanted to meditate quietly for half an hour. No man could be more clear-sighted than he was as regarded his own faults and follies in all cases where his conscience was not brought into question. To-night, he at once acknowledged to himself that he was more deeply in love with Mirpah Van Loal than he had thought ever to be with any woman again. He had sneered at himself, before starting out in the morning, for his infatuation of the previous night, but now the second night had come, and he was twice as much infatuated as before. He did not sneer at himself to-night, but he set himself critically to consider why he had fallen in love, and whither this new disturbing influence in his life was likely to lead him.

But the why and the wherefore of the cases that have to be adjudicated before the tribunal of Love can seldom be argued coolly by either of the parties chiefly concerned. Their statements are sure to be ex parte ones, their arguments to be colored by personal feeling, while the philtre that is working in their blood obscures their logic and clouds their brains. In stating the case before himself, the first question Ducie asked was: "What is the particular charm about Miss Van Loal that has induced me to make such a fool of myself at my time of life?"

"Well," he answered himself, leisurely puffing, with hands buried deep in pockets—"that there is a peculiar charm about Miss Van Loal is a fact which I, for one, cannot dispute. She does not belong to the monde, and never will belong to it, for which I like her none the worse. She is fresh and unconventional, and much better educated than most ladies of fashion. There is no mawkish sentimentality about her. She is not a boarding-school miss, but a woman, intelligent, and full of clear, calm, good sense. Good tempered too, unless I am greatly mistaken, and that goes for much with a man of my years. Lastly, she is very nice looking; beautiful would not be too strong a word to apply in her case, and her beauty is of a kind one does not see every day. She is in good style, too, and with a little training, would hold her own anywhere.

"As to whither this new passion is leading me? — If at the end of another week I like Miss Van Loal as well as I like her now, I shall make her an offer of marriage. It is by no means certain that she will accept me, but should she do so I suppose my people will say that I have made a low marriage, and will cut me accordingly. Well, I should rather enjoy being cut under such circumstances. There's not one of the whole tribe that would give me another sovereign to save me from starving. Thanks to one little fact, I shall never again have occasion to ask them for a sovereign. Why, then, should I not marry Miss Van Loal? I have an idea that I could be happier with her as my wife than I have ever been before. I should no longer feel the sting of poverty. I could afford to live a life of thorough respectability, and I would never look on a card again. There are some lovely nooks on the Continent, and—but bah! why pursue the dream any farther? That it will prove to be anything more than a dream I dare scarcely hope."

He rose and flung away the end of his cigar, and began to prepare for bed. "By what singular fatality does it happen that Mr. Van Lola, a dealer in diamonds, has been brought en rapport with me, who holds in my possession one of the finest diamonds in the world? In any case I made his acquaintance most opportunely. Through his assistance I may be enabled to find a purchaser for my gem."

CHAPTER XXVI.

A LITTLE DINNER FOR THREE.

Two or three days passed quietly away without any particular incident that need be recorded here. Capt. Ducie was much with the Van Loals. Each day they went on an excursion together, and on these occasions the Captain always acted the part of charioteer. As they were driving back into St. Helier one afternoon, said Ducie: "I have ventured to order a dinner for three in my rooms for this evening. May I hope that you and Miss Van Loal will honor me with your company?"

"We will accept your invitation with pleasure," said the old man, "on condition that you dine with us to-morrow, in return."

"A condition that I shall be happy to comply with," answered Ducie. "I have something of a very rare and curious nature to show you after dinner; something respecting which I wish you to favor me with your opinion."

"You may command my humble services in any way," answered Van Loal.

At 7, to the minute, Mr. Van Loal, his daughter, and Capt. Ducie, sat down to a well served dinner in the room of the latter. Mirpah looked very lovely, but paler than ordinary. She seemed anxious and distraite, Ducie thought, and was more than usually silent during the progress of the meal. In the delicate curves of her mouth, Ducie fancied that he detected a lurking sadness. He felt that he would have given much to fathom the cause of her unwonted melancholy. What if this incipient sadness were merely a symptom of dawning love? What if she were learning to regard him with some small portion of the same feeling that he had for her? Hope whispered faintly in his ear that such might be the case, but he was not essentially a vain man, and with an impatient shrug he dismissed the seductive whisper, and turned his attention to other things. On one point his mind was quite made up. The very next opportunity that he should have of being alone with Mr. Van Loal he would ask that gentleman's permission to put a certain question to his daughter, and if anything might be augured from a man's manner, his request would meet with no unkind reception. The opportunity he sought would hardly be afforded him this evening. Capt. Ducie's sitting-room would, on this occasion, have to fill the offices both of dining and drawing room. There would be no occasion for Miss Van Loal to retire after the cloth should be drawn. The gentlemen might smoke their cigars on the balcony. What Capt. Ducie had to say in private to Mr. Van Loal would very well keep till morning. He had something particular to say to Mr. Van Loal this evening, but was something that did not preclude the presence of Mirpah. When the time drew near that he had fixed on his own mind as the proper time for introducing this one special topic—about half an hour after the withdrawal of the cloth—he hardly knew in what terms to begin. He could think of no periparsatical opening by means of which he could introduce the all-important topic. In sheer despair of any readier mode, he at length plunged boldly into the speech.

"I have been informed, Mr. Van Loal, that you are a diamond merchant," he said, "and that you have a wide knowledge of gems of various kinds, and can consequently form a trustworthy opinion as to the value of any that may be submitted for your inspection."

"Well—yes—" said Van Loal, with a slow dubious smile, "I am, or rather was, a dealer in diamonds, howsoever you may have ascertained that fact."

"It was I who told Capt. Ducie, papa," said Mirpah, in her quiet clear tones.

"Quite right, my love. I am not ashamed of my profession," answered the old man. Then turning to Ducie, he said: "Any information that I may be in possession of on the various subjects embraced by my experience I shall be most happy to afford you."

"My object in introducing the topic is to ask you to do me the favor to appraise a certain Diamond which I have in my possession; to let me have your opinion as to its qualities, good or bad, together with an estimate of its probable value."

Mr. Van Loal whistled under his breath. "Diamonds are very difficult things to appraise with any degree of correctness, especially where there is any particular feature about them, either in size, color, water or cutting, that separates them from the ordinary category of such things. Is the Diamond to which you refer an ordinary one? or has it any special features of its own?"

"It has several special features, such as its size, its color, and its extraordinary brilliancy. But I will fetch it, and you shall examine it for yourself. Pardon my leaving you for one moment."

With a smile and a bow Captain Ducie rose from his chair, crossed the floor, and disappeared within an inner room. Mr Van Loal and his daughter exchanged glances full of meaning. The pallor deepened on Mirpah's cheek; she moved nervously with her fan; and even the old man, ordinarily so calm and self-contained, looked anxious and brimful of nervous excitement. His fingers wandered frequently to his waistcoat, in one pocket of which there seemed to be some object of whose presence there he needed frequently to assure himself.

Ducie returned after an absence of two minutes. He too seemed to have caught that contagion of nervous excitement which marked the demeanor of his two guests. Was he warned by some subtle instinct that one of the great crises of his life was at hand? Or was he merely a prey to that vulgar fear which all who practice the art of illegal conveyancing must or ought to feel when the proceeds of their nefarious deeds are submitted for the first time to the common light of day?

"This is the gem which I am desirous of submitting for your inspection."

He held out his hand, and there on his open palm the Great Mogul Diamond sparkled and glowed, a chrysolite of pure green fire. An exclamation of surprise and delight burst simultaneously from the lips of Mirpah and her father.

"In the whole course of my experience I have never seen anything to equal this," said Van Loal, as he donned his spectacles, "May I take it into my own fingers to examine?"

"Certainly; I have brought it in order that you may do so."

Speaking thus, Captain Ducie dropped the Diamond into the extended palm of the supposed dealer. Some inward qualm the next moment made him half put out his hand as if he would have reclaimed the Diamond there and then. But the lean fingers of Van Loal had already closed over the gem, and Ducie's arm dropped aimlessly by his side.

Mr. Van Loal rose from his seat, and went close up to the lamp, that he might examine the stone more minutely. There he was joined by Mirpah, whose curiosity quite equalled that of her father. They both stood gazing at it for full two minutes without speaking.

"Wonderful! magnificent!" exclaimed Mr. Van Loal at length. Words fail me to express the admiration I feel at sight of so rare a gem. Can it be possible, Captain Ducie, that you are the fortunate possessor of such a treasure? I should think myself one of the most favored of mortals did such a Diamond belong to me."

"It is mine," answered Ducie calmly and deliberately. "It has been in the possession of our family for two centuries. Originally it came from the Indies, and is said to have been worn by the great Aurungzebe himself."

"If the Great Mogul never did wear it, he ought to have done so. Even among his remarkable treasures he can have possessed but few stones equal to this one. You can never be called a poor man, Captain Ducie, while you retain this in your possession. Mirpah, my child, what say you?"

"What can I say, papa? I am not enthusiastic, as you know, nor given to indulge in notes of admiration. I only say that in my poor experience I have never seen anything to equal it. Diamonds as large, or larger, I have seen several times, but they were all white, or of inferior water. I have never seen a green one at all comparable to this one either for size or brilliancy, and I think, papa, that even your wider experience will, in this respect, tally with mine."

"Completely so," answered the old man. "I question whether, among all the crown jewels of Europe, there is a green diamond that can in any way match it, either for color or brilliancy. Captain Ducie, your treasure is almost unique."

"Can you furnish me with anything like an estimate of its probable value?"

"I am doubtful whether I can. Were it an ordinary white diamond the value could be easily calculated when once the weight was known. But with a green diamond the case is very different. In addition to what its value would be as an ordinary diamond, it would command an extra or fancy price in the market, from the rarity of its color in conjunction with its size. This additional value is a most difficult thing to gauge accurately. Even among professional dealers you would hardly find two who would name the same figure, or the same figure within a very wide margin, if called upon to estimate the worth of your green diamond."

"Still," said Ducie, "I should like you to furnish me with some approximate estimate of its probable value."

"What is its weight?"

"Nearly 87 carats."

"In that case you may estimate its value somewhere between one hundred and two hundred thousand pounds."

The Diamond had been passed on by Mr. Van Loal to his daughter for examination.

"A gem fit for an Empress to wear!" was Mirpah's remark, as she handed the stone back to her father.

"Observe the mode in which this Diamond is cut," said Van Loal. "It has been done in the Indies after a style which has been handed down from father to son for 1,000 years. You should let it be operated upon by our Amsterdam cutters. They would turn it out at the end of six months, less in size it is true, but so greatly improved in every other respect, that you would hardly know it for the same gem. May I ask whether it is your intension to dispose of it by private treaty?"

"It is my intention ultimately so to do," answered Ducie.

"I suppose you have no objection to my trying the temper of your Diamond on the window?"

"None whatever," said Ducie with a shrug. "You may write your name on every pane in the hotel if you please."

"That would indeed be a painful exhibition of vanity," replied Van Loal, with a weak attempt at a pun.

Speaking thus, he rose from his seat, and crossed the floor, holding the Diamond between the thumb and finger of his right hand.

Curtains of crimson damask draped the windows. One of these curtains Van Loal drew noisily aside. A second or two later those in the room could hear the slow scratching of the Diamond on the glass.

Mirpah's cheek grew still paler as the sound met her ears.

Just then Ducie was thinking as much of the beautiful girl before him as of the Diamond.

"I hope you have not forgotten our engagement to visit Elizabeth Castle to-morrow," he said. "It will be low water at noon, and we can either walk across the sands to it or ride, as may seem best to you."

"I have not forgotten," said Mirpah, softly, and from her eyes there shot a swift, half sorrowful glance that thrilled him to the heart.

"I must make my opportunity to-morrow and propose to her," he said to himself. "I never thought to love again, but I love Mirpah Van Loal, and will make her my wife if she will let me do so. Perhaps the future may have a quiet happiness in store for me, such as I never dreamed of in all the wild days that have come and gone since my father turned me adrift upon the world, and I may thought myself a man. I begin to think there is something in life that I have altogether missed."

This thought was working in his mind when Mr. Van Loal came back from the window still holding the Diamond between the thumb and finger of his right hand. He deposited it lightly in Ducie's palm.

"A wonderful gem, my dear sir—a truly wonderful gem!" said the old man. "I envy you the possession of such a treasure In all my experience I have never seen or heard of its equal. But you must allow me to say that I think it very unwise on your part to carry so valuable an item of property about with you on your travels. Let me recommend you to deposit it with your banker, or in some other safe custody, as soon as ever you get back to England; unless, indeed, you may wish to dispose of it, in which case allow me to offer my humble services as negotiator of the transactions for you."

"No one on the island, save yourself and Miss Van Loal, is aware that I carry such an article about me; consequently there is no fear of its being stolen. As it happens, I am desirous of disposing of the Diamond—in fact, I should have sold it some time ago had I known how to conduct such a transaction without running the risk of being egregiously duped. Your kind offer of your valuable services has disposed of that difficulty, and, with your permission, we will discuss the matter in extenso to-morrow.

He had risen while speaking, and he now went away into the inner room, carrying the Diamond with him. As soon as his back was turned, a meaning glance passed between father and daughter. There was a look of triumph in the eyes of Van Loal which told Mirpah that the object which had brought them all the way from their Midlandshire home had been successfully achieved.

No word passed between the two, and Ducie came back in less than a minute. Conversation was resumed, and still the theme was diamonds and precious gems. As was only to be expected from one who called himself a dealer in such merchandise, Mr. Van Loal showed himself to be deeply versed in all matters relating to precious stones. Capt. Ducie was greatly interested. The little company did not break up until a late hour.

"At noon to-morrow. You will not forget?" said Ducie, as he held Mirpah's hand for a moment at the door of his room. She made him no answer in words, but again that strange half-sorrowful look shot from her eyes to his, and her soft hand clasped his in a way that it had never been betrayed into doing before. Then they parted. Captain Ducie's dreams that night were happy dreams.

Mirpah Van Loal must either have forgotten her over-night promise to Capt. Ducie, or have held it in small regard, seeing that she left Sir Helier by the Southampton boat at 6:45 the next morning. She was accompanied by her father, and by a clean shaven young gentleman, dressed in black, who had been living a very secluded life for some time past at Button's Hotel.

As the boat steamed slowly out of the harbor, Mirpah threw a last searching glance among the crowd with which the pier was lined. "Poor Captain Ducie!" she murmured half aloud. Her father who happened to be standing close by, peered up curiously into her face and saw that her eyes were wet. He did not speak, but moved further away, and left her to her own thoughts.

They had an excellent passage, and Mirpah bore up bravely. Some time after leaving Guernsey, an English steamer bound for the Islands passed a few hundred yards to leeward. The clean shaven young man in black was watching the stranger keenly through his glass when an expression of surprise burst from his lips. "What is it, James? What is it that you see, my boy?" asked Mr. Van Loal.

"On yonder boat I see an old acquaintance of yours and mine."

The old man took the glass and scanned the passing ship, the passengers of which were scanning the Southampton boat eagerly in return, and had their faces turned full towards it. The old man laid down the glass after a minute's silent observation.

"James," he said in a solemn tone, "unless my eyes deceive me greatly, the mulatto, Cleon, is on board yonder ship."

"You are right, father. Cleon is on board that ship. He was not killed, then, after all, in his encounter with Capt. Ducie."

"Such a fellow as that takes a deal of killing. On one point we may be pretty sure: that by some means or other he has discovered Capt. Ducie's whereabouts and is now on his track."

"Wants his revenge, perhaps."

"Wants to recover the Great Mogul Diamond, mayhap."

Madgin Junior laughed. "He will hardly succeed in doing that, father. Mr. Van Loal has been in the field before him."

CHAPTER XXVII.

CLEON REDIVIVUS.

When Madgin Junior averred that he saw Cleon, the mulatto servant of the late M. Platzoff, on board the steamer which would be due in Guernsey some two hours later, he stated no more than the truth. That dusky individual was there, looking as well as ever he had looked in his life; sprucely, even elegantly dressed; and having a watchful eye on his two small articles of luggage; a miniature portmanteau, and a tiny black leather bag. At Guernsey he quitted the steamer, and waiting on the pier till he saw it fairly under way again for the sister island, he entered at once into negotiations with some of the hardy boatmen generally to be found lounging about St. Peter's port. The result was that a pretty little skiff was brought round, into which Mr. Cleon and his luggage were carefully stowed, the whole being taken charge of by a couple of sailors who at once hoisted their sail and stood out in a straight line for Jersey. The wind was in their favor, but the tide was against them nearly the whole way, and it was quite dark before they got under the lee of the light house and found themselves safely sheltered in the little harbor of St. Helier. It is quite possible that Mr. Cleon may have had some motive in not wishing to land by daylight, at all events he seemed nowise dissatisfied by his late arrival, but paid his boatmen liberally and dismissed them.

Skirting the head of the harbor cautiously, with his coat collar up and his hat well slouched over his eyes, Cleon entered the first low public house to which he came and called for a glass of rum. A number of men, sailors chiefly, and leaders of various kinds, passed in and out while he stood at the bar, at each of whom he glanced keenly. He waited nearly half an hour before he found the sort of face he wanted—one in which low cunning and intelligence were combined. He took the owner of this face aside and held a private parley with him for full 10 minutes. Then the man went away and Mr. Cleon ordered a private room and some tea.

He was still discussing his chop when the man got back.

"Well, what news? Make your report," said the mulatto.

"All right, captain," with a touch of his forelock. "Found out all you wanted to know, right slick way. Make you no error on that point. I promised to do it, and I done it. Oh, yes. There's no flies about what I'm going to tell you. Captain Ducie is stopping at the 'Royal George,' and has been stopping there for the last 10 days. Up to last night most of his time was spent with an old gentleman and a young lady, father and daughter, of the name of Van Loal. But they went away by this morning's boat, and Captain Ducie has been mooning about all day, seeming as if he hardly knew what to do with himself. Just now he is up the town at one of the billiard saloons, and is not expected home before 11."

"You know all the billiard rooms in the town. Go and find out at which one of them Captain Ducie is engaged, and whether he is so fixed that he is likely to remain there for some time to come."

In less than a quarter of an hour the man was back. "The captain is playing pool with a lot more swells at Baxter's rooms, and seems well fixed for another hour to come."

The mulatto had already paid his bill, and was ready for a start. "Now show me the 'Royal George' Hotel," said he.

The hotel was pointed out and the man paid and dismissed. Cleon entered the hotel with the air of a proprietor, and asked to be shown a private sitting-room. He was shown into one on the first floor. It was small but comfortable. He expressed himself as being perfectly satisfied with it, and then he ordered dinner.

While the meal was being got ready, Mr. Cleon stated that he should like to see such bedrooms as were disengaged. He was rather fastidious, he added, in the choice of a bedroom, and should prefer making his own selection. He was very pleasant and jocular with the chambermaid who showed him round.

In all there were five bedrooms in want of occupants. Mr. Cleon was not satisfied till he had looked into each of them. "Some days," he said, after peeping into the fifth and last, "if I am rightly informed, you have a military gentleman stopping in the house, a Captain ——."

"Ducie," added the girl, as the mulatto stopped as if in doubt.

"Ah, that is the name. Captain Ducie. Now, could you oblige me by telling me which room he occupies, as I should like to choose a room as near to his as possible?"

As the Captain's room is number fourteen. Number ten, the next room but three to it, is empty, and you can have it if you choose."

"I engage number ten on the spot," said Mr. Cleon, emphatically. "See that the sheets are properly aired, and here are a couple of half-crowns for your trouble."

Mr. Cleon ate his dinner in solitary state, and retired to his bedroom at an early hour. To his bedroom, but not to bed. After about five minutes his candle was put out. A minute or two later the door of his room was noiselessly opened, and showed him standing on the threshold, tall and black, like a spirit of evil in the dim starlight. After listening intently for a little while, he stole gently along the corridor from his own room to the door of number fourteen. This door he tried, and found that it yielded at once to his hand. He opened it a little way and peeped in. The room was dark and empty. Still listening, with every sense on the alert, he struck a noiseless match. The tiny flame, bright and clear, and lasting for about half a minute, was sufficient to enable him to photograph on his memory the position of every article of furniture in the room. It was also sufficient to enable him to note something of much greater importance; that there was not only a stout lock on the door of number fourteen, but that the door could be still further secured on the inside by means of a strong bolt. He smothered the malediction that rose to his lips when he saw this, and then he stole back to his own room with the look of a baffled wild beast on his face.

Even now he did not go to bed, but sat waiting in the dark, with his door slightly ajar, for the coming of the tenant of No. 14. Upwards of an hour passed away before he heard Capt. Ducie's step on the stairs. He seemed to draw back within himself as he heard it: to crouch as if getting ready for a spring. But the moment Capt. Ducie entered No. 14, Cleon was at the door of his own room and listening. He fell back a pace or two and shook his fist savagely in the air as he heard what he had felt almost sure he should hear. He heard Capt. Ducie double back the door of No. 14, and then shoot home the brass bolt as though still further to secure himself against intruders. The mulatto's sharp white teeth clashed together viciously as the sound met his ear.

"Only wait!" he whispered down the dark corridor. Then he went in, and shut and locked the door of his own room.

Next morning he ordered breakfast to be taken up to bed to him. He was very unwell, he said, and should not be able to leave his room all that day. But his illness, whatever it might be, did not seem to affect his appetite. Luncheon, and afterwards dinner, were sent up to him in due course. At nine o'clock he rang his bell and ordered a bottle of claret. At the same time he instructed the waiter that he should not want anything more till morning: and that he must on no account be disturbed till that time.

He had been singularly uneasy and watchful all day, listening frequently, with his door slightly ajar, to the downstairs noises of the hotel, sometimes even venturing a few yards down the corridor when the house was more than usually quietly, but retreating quickly to his den at the slightest sound of an approaching footstep. Once he had even penetrated into Captain Ducie's room for a few few seconds. "Ah, sclerat! I shall have you yet," he muttered, as he shut himself out of the room after his brief survey.

Now that daylight had faded into dusk, and dusk had deepened into night, his proceedings were still more singular. After finishing his bottle of wine he proceeded to take off his ordinary outer clothing, and in place of it to induct himself into a tight-fitting suit of some strong dark woven stuff that fitted him like a glove. Round his waist he buckled a belt of dull black leather, and into this belt he stuck a small sheathed dagger. Pendant from the belt was a tiny pouch made of the same material, into which he put some half dozen allumettes, and two small cones of some red material, each of them about four inches in height. This done, his toilet was finished. After a last glance round, he put out the candles, opened the door, and halted on the threshold for a moment or two to listen.

The night was clear and unclouded, and through the staircase window the stars shone brightly in. The corridor was filled with their ghostly light. Midway in it stood the mulatto, black from head to foot, except for his two orbicular eyes that gleamed readily from under his heavy brows like danger signals pointing out the road to death. A pause of a seconds and then he shut and locked the door of his room—locked it from the outside and put away the key in the tiny pouch by his side.

The quiet starlight seemed to fall away from him affrighted as he moved down the dusky corridor. Now that the door was shut behind him he went on without hesitation or pause. He had only a few paces to go. On reaching the door of number fourteen, he turned the handle, went in, and closed the door softly behind him.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

A WOMAN'S PRISON.

A Model Reformatory at Indianapolis.

Correspondence St. Louis Post.

This afternoon, by invitation of Mrs Gov. Hendricks, I accompanied her to visit the most wonderful institution in the world. It is the woman's prison and reformatory for girls. It has the horor of being the first one of the kind in the world. There is another now at Sherborne, Mass., but it has only been in operation seven years, and the Sherborne prison was modelled after it. This institution receives all the convicted criminals in the State who are girls and women.

All incorrigible girls are also sent here, where they are received and taught. Among the inmates are nearly 50 little girls under 12 years of age, who had already entered upon a life of crime. As the noble-looking Quakeress, Sarah Smith, who, with the assistance of eight or nine women, manages this whole institution, ascended with me the stairs of the chapel, she said "Remember, these girls and women are from the scum and offscouring of Indiana." As I looked upon them I involuntarily exclaimed, "Can it be possible?" About 200 girls and women were before me. Their faces were so clean and their hair so smooth that they fairly shone. Their countenances beamed with interest, and I never for one moment would have imagined them to be criminals, but only a company of school girls of ordinary intelligence. There was not a suggestion of prison garb. They all wore neat calico dresses and neat little white collars. Some had their hair braided, some wore it very short, but every one showed that cultivation of neatness of person which is one of the most refining influences which can be brought to bear

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Publishers.

TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, JAN. 16, 1879

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Please remember that we CANNOT ALLOW COMMISSIONS on subscriptions for the above named papers and magazines, except for THE BLADE, as stated.

As is the invariable custom in all newspaper offices, a subscription year is reckoned as FIFTY TWO WEEKS.

One thousand magistrates are to be elected by the next Legislature of North Carolina.

NINETY-SIX murderers were hanged last year, preparatory to a resumption of security to life.

NO WONDER that the negroes will "abandon the plantations to flock to the town." The plantations of Louisiana are hardly attractive to men who want to live long.

THERE were 500 girls under 20 married in New York last year, and probably several hundred of them already wish that they waited until they arrived at the age of discretion before selecting a partner.

CAPT. PECK, kneeling upon a wounded negro, and firing bullet after bullet into his quivering body, is the spectacle of "wealth, intelligence and education ruling the country" that we are called upon to-day to contemplate.

THAT dry-goods clerk at Shelbyville who swallowed a cartridge ought to be watched carefully. He is liable to go off very unexpectedly at any moment, and folks who go off unexpectedly nowadays invariably take somebody else's wife or money with them.

THE persecution of a Confederate soldier who dared to become a Republican was too great to be resisted even by a man of Gen. LONGSTREET'S stubborn mold, and he was forced to retire from New Orleans to a plantation he owns near Gainesville, Ga., of which place he was appointed Postmaster the other day.

VACUOUS VOORHEES vapors about the re-monetization of the trade dollar. His proposition means that the Government shall pay the speculators who have gobbled up those commercial tokens, about 19 per cent. more than they paid for them. It is a deliberate scheme to swindle the people of the United States out of an immense sum of money, for the benefit of a ring of brokers who have retained Mr. VOORHEES.

LET us imagine that the ring of speculators behind Mr. VOORHEES have in their hands 5,000,000 of trade dollars. These have cost, on an average, 85 cents apiece. If they can now succeed in selling them to the Government at $1.00 each, they will make a net profit of nearly 19 per cent. on their original investment, or "clean up" $750,000 on their lot. It would be quite a fair piece of business in these quiet times.

HENRY WATTERSON is so delighted with the success of Gerrymandering in Ohio and Indiana, that he looks forward with confidence to the day when the Democrats can make it a National policy, and crush out New England's political influence. Then "Maine and New Hampshire will be combined into one State, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts into a second, and Vermont be attached as a County to New York." This a nice way for an old line States' Rights Democrat, born in a nullification cradle, and nursed on the Resolutions of '98 to talk. Suppose that the Republicans, when the came back into power, should propose to wipe out the sacred State lines of Maryland and Delaware—as they should be—and adjust political power on a more equitable basis, by taking a part of overgrown Pennsylvania and forming a fair sized State by the addition of Maryland and Delaware to it. The North is willing to have a rearrangement of State lines at any moment the rest of the country desires it.

JUDGE BRADA'S testimony before the Teller Committee on the 7th, is, in itself, sufficient to justify all that has been charged against the bulldozing Democrats of Louisiana. The story he tells is simply terrible. He is no carpet-bagger, no Northern adventurer in search of office and spoils. He is a Southerner, born and bred, served through the Rebellion in the noted "Louisiana Tigers," and six years after the close of the war, concluded, for reasons that he does not give, to become a Republican. The moment he did this he became an outlaw, against whom every Democratic hand was raised. He was insulted, dragooned and threatened with all manner of harm, until at last his danger became so manifest that he fled the country. Almost any other man would have done this long before he did. He exhibited the most remarkable courage in remaining as long as he did. It should not be necessary to search for further proof. One single instance like this should be sufficient to excite a whole Nation to rise and demand that these men be restored to their rights and protected in them, though it took the whole power of the Government, and millions of dollars to do it.

RESUMPTION.

January 1, 1879, specie payment was resumed. The Croakers in the Republican party, the Greenbackers in the Democratic party, and that miscellaneous mass known as Nationals, had been predicting for years that the event would be the precursor of a financial cataclysm that would engulf all business, and destroy, utterly and entirely, what little was left of the prosperity of the country. Jeremiads filled their papers; and from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof—yea, even far into the depths of the night, could be heard, by lamp-post, by bar, or upon the busy street corner, the dolsful voice of the ready-made financier, wailing out dismal warnings of the impending ruin.

The momentous day came; the 1st of January arrived; the instant occurred when JOHN SHERMAN'S patriacidal hand was to pluck out the keystone from the arch of our material prosperity, and bring the whole fabric down in remediless ruin. Singular as it may seem nothing of the kind happened. Those who stood on tip-toe, with fingers in ears, and mouth opened, to alleviate the shock of the crash, were disappointed. They heard nothing so loud as the disturbed beatings of their own hearts. There was no crash, no upheaval, no cataclysm. The Government announced its readiness to pay gold to whoever wanted it. People listened to the announcement, believed it so fully as to have no desire to test its truth, and went on about their business as usual.

The orators of the bar-rooms, the caryatides of the lamp-posts, the financiers of the dry-goods boxes, the wailing CASSANDRAS of the street corners were disappointed. The only difference observable was that business men stiffened up, and went to their warehouses and offices in a better frame of mind than ever, and that they entered upon the day's business with more confidence than they had felt for 10 years. They felt for the first time in many years that they could buy and sell with some degree of certainty, that the value of goods and products did not depend upon the vagaries and uncertain operations of a body of unscrupulous gamblers in Wall Street, and if they bought an invoice of goods in the first of the month, they could know with some degree of certainty that it would not rise or fall in value before it reached them. In short, the business man felt that at last he was on solid ground and that his feet had something reliable to stand upon.

Nothing in the world has ever been so grossly bedevilled by one class, or so grossly, terribly misunderstood by another, as this question of resumption and the collateral issues growing out of it.

Contraction was the natural sequence of inflation. All the legislation that the wit of man could devise could not have prevented the wildcat business that followed the necessary inflation of the currency during the war. When the Government was forced to buy to provide for a million of men in the field; when, owing to the demand, the carelessness of departments, and the rascality of contractors, everything that the manufacturer and farmer produced was made to cost three prices, and the Government had to pour out greenbacks like water, nothing could prevent a corresponding inflation in real estate and everything else. Fortunes were made in a month, and poverty-stricken men became rich in a year. It was inevitable, and it was also inevitable that a revulsion should follow.

Contraction and resumption were just as inevitable as inflation and extravagant speculation. When the flow of money ceased the business business that it had produced and fostered ceased also.

Gold went down, down, down, as one after another of the sham edifices built upon this shifting foundation, succumbed, and the more thorough the weeding process, the more nearly the paper approximated to gold. True, the fever might have been kept up some years, had the Government kept up by crazy schemes of improvements, the flow of money to the same volume that the war occasioned, but the end was inevitable. Some time, near or remote, the resumption and all these must come, for the country could not live on credit forever, any more than an individual.

There never was the value in land merchandize that was attached to them during inflation times, the pasture lot never was worth $5,000 an acre, any more than a yard of muslin was worth 75 cents. Men called it so, but that did not make it so. Without any legislation whatever the land unnecessarily laid out in City lots would have returned to its legitimate uses as pasturage, and muslin would have come down to 10 cents.

It is doubtful if any of the legislation to forward resumption was any help in that direction. It came of itself—it came because the cause that produced inflation was removed. It might have been postponed by the Government throwing away money, making it as it did during the war and throwing it away in unnecessary improvements, but by no other means.

The effects of Resumption will be beneficial. And the benefits will be apparent at once. Business is not going back to the old feverish exaltation of 1873. It will not for years reach the volume of the inflation period, nor is it likely that the enormous profits of that time will be in order again. We do not think any one will say that it is desirable that this should be so. But there will be something still better. There will be a stability, a certainty, a confidence that is, after all, a thousand times better.

Men will not talk so glibly of hundreds of thousands and millions, nor will they live as though they really had those once very common fortunes. The man with $20,000 will be counted tolerably well off, in this world, and whoever possesses $100,000 will be esteemed a very rich man. The froth and foam will all be blown off, the hollow pretenders will be exposed, and the country will come to something solid and substantial.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS has had a sudden and alarming development of conscience, which has caused his resignation of the position of Government Director of the Union Pacific Railroad. He says in effect that he cannot think it right to work for the Government and receive his pay from the Company. It has taken him some time to come to this conclusion, as he has held the position for several years, and it is rather peculiar that this fit of righteous indignation overtakes him, just as he has begun to be interested in the Kansas Pacific Road, a competing line. However it was very proper for him to resign under the circumstances, and the country will try to endure it, even though he does indirectly charge it with dishonorable dealing.

FINANCIAL TROUBLES IN EUROPE.

Sweden is now suffering from the same troubles that have caused so much distress in other countries, and which, sooner or later, must affect all nations who have commercial intercourse with the rest of the world. A perfect hurricane of disaster has swept over the business firms of Stockholm and crushed many of the largest banking houses there. This means something more to Sweden than it would to many other countries, from the fact that with all of its great natural resources it lacks the one thing needful to make them pay commercially. It has little capital, and its industries must be at once paralyzed if the media by which foreign advances are obtained are destroyed.

One thing will intensify the suffering of the laboring people there beyond what has been experienced in the United States during the last few years of hard times. It is their entire dependence upon their masters, who live among them, looking constantly after their welfare, and to whom in any trouble they turn for relief. While this makes them devoted and loyal, it also takes from their power of caring for themselves, if anything happens to ruin the employer. Hence it can hardly be otherwise than that the present financial troubles will bring terrible suffering upon the working people, as great or worse than that now felt by the English.

The newspapers in England are full of speculation as to the cause of hard times in that country, for which the only remedy they claim is emigration. They do not seem to look for any speedy change for the better, and, doubtless, they are right in this. The causes of their financial difficulties lie much deeper than those of the United States. They have been growing for many decades, by the gradual overburdening of the land and the overcrowding of the manufacturing centers. The classes that are suffering now are neither simple, hardy peasants, like the Swedes, or strong, sturdy, intelligent laborers, similar to our own, but ground down for years by poverty and unable to procure good wholesome food, the majority are stupid, ignorant and brutal. These characteristics, the result of what they could not control, is expressed in their work and answers the question so earnestly put by Englishmen as to the reason for their losing their prestige in manufactures. Apparently the season of starvation is only just begun there, and what will be the end may well trouble the British mind, for it is hard to see any remedy. Such news as constantly come from the Old World ought to make the people of this country cease all grumbling, and thankfully "take the goods the gods" have provided so plentifully. A few years of industry and economy will make good all of our losses, and place everything upon a prosperous basis again.

RELIGIOUS CHANGES IN 1878.

Among the changes which the past few years have brought about, and which the one just dying has made exceedingly prominent, perhaps none have been greater than those in the religious world. The tendency has been to break away from old prejudices and to inaugurate a liberality of thought and freedom of opinion, entirely in consonance with the future well being of humanity. In some cases it may seem that the cutting loose from old beliefs and the narrow dogmatism of the past has invited a license not compatible with good order, and certainly without the elevating influences attending lives regulated by the pure and simple teachings of true Christianity. This however, is only upon the surface, and is the agitation always accompanying a transition state. Underlying this is an earnest desire for truth on the part of all civilized people, a reaching out after the most perfect laws given by God and Nature for the government of mankind. The best feature of the whole change is this very one of leading man to self-sacrifice and self-control by sweeping away some of the barriers that the past had thrown around him, through its appeal to his selfishness, and giving him broader and more generous views of his duties to others, that he may act for the good of all, and not for that of an individual.

The BLADE spoke recently of the change in Geneva to be made by the separation of Church and State. Other and more important ones are taking place elsewhere. From Scotland, the hot bed of the most dogmatic Calvinism, is wafted tidings that show a breaking of the iron chains that have so long bound the people. Prof. SMITH, that member of the Free Church—the most rigid of the three great Presbyterian Churches—who dared to adopt and publish the views of the inspiration and authenticity of the Bible, taught by the German School of Biblical Criticism, and who, until very lately, would not have been tolerated for a moment, has been tried for heresy by his Presbytery, retried by the order of the General Assembly, and finally acquitted. Besides this wonderful thing showing the advance of Scottish free thought, a document in which is drawn up a declaration modifying essentially the principal Church doctrines, has been submitted by a Synod to the Presbyterians for consideration and approval.

In the selection of the present Pope to succeed PIUS IX, liberalism obtained a great victory, inasmuch as a reformation has been commenced which will destroy the worn out traditions of the past, and substitute a more enlightened policy upon the part of the Catholic Church.

While, in these things is seen a greater freedom of thought in religious matters, the church denominations in our own country are not standing still. Side by side with that independence which rejected the revival of the old doctrine of future punishment, they have increased rapidly in strength and numbers. Statistics show that as a rule the addition of communicants during the past year has been fully equal to the preceding ones, and in some cases surpassed them. Long standing debts have been cleared away, and large amounts of money, notwithstanding the pressure of the times, have been raised for both home and foreign missions. Through the efforts of those engaged in the latter work, 40,000 Hindoos in India alone have renounced heathenism for Christianity, during the year 1878.

A LETTER to the *N. Y. Tribune*, from some one who is familiar with the country in Eastern Kentucky and Southwestern Virginia, says that the extension of railroads into this region would develop its inexhaustible coal deposits, its valuable iron ores and its immense forests, and bring these products into market. He adds that, from statistics and field notes in his possession, he is certain that this section will eventually become one of the most important manufacturing districts in the United States.

THE PRESENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

In a lengthy letter to the New York *Tribune*, written from Vienna by Gen. W. B. HAZEN, is given a general view of the present condition of the United States in respect to its agricultural and manufactured productions, which, summing up as it does, general facts, is quite interesting. The cotton crop so greatly impaired by the war, has been restored, and the attempt to raise it elsewhere during that time has demonstrated that this country has the monopoly of cotton growing lands, and will be, for an indefinite time, the great cotton producing field of the world.

The wheat crop for this year will be nearly 600,000,000 bushels, and while the market is almost without limit, the area now cultivated is but a small portion of what is capable of being employed for this purpose. The increase of land brought under cultivation is over 4,000,000 acres annually, and this will be largely added to now for a few years by the great numbers of people who are leaving the cities to seek homes and a living upon farms.

The production of wool yearly is 100,000,000 pounds, which is only "one-half of that raised by either Germany or Great Britain, while our capacity is greater than both." There are large tracts of country adapted to sheep raising but worthless for agriculture, and the success which has attended those who have gone into this business will draw others in the same direction.

A valuable industry is developing in the furnishing of live animals to the markets of Europe. In the West are great stretches of land where immense herds of cattle could thrive just as the buffalo has done in the past. This fact is becoming more and more plain to our people, and already the production of live animals is increasing at the rate of 30 per cent. annually.

The products of the dairy are steadily growing, both in quality and quantity. In the last 11 months, 152,000,000 pounds of butter and cheese were exported, which is an increase of one-third in 12 months.

The mineral riches of the United States are enormous and apparently inexhaustible. She almost supplies the world with petroleum, and coal is becoming rapidly an article of export that can soon equal the amount sold from England which is $200,000,000 annually. The mines produce fully $100,000,000 of treasure each year.

So much for our natural productions. The exports are increasing rapidly, and their excess over imports the present year is $100,000,000. The fact is clearly evident that American manufacturers, with the exception of a few kinds of handwork, can successfully compete with those of Europe, and find ready markets in foreign countries. Locomotives made here go Russia and Australia, because they are cheaper and stronger than those purchased elsewhere; street railroad cars are sold across the ocean because of their durability; steam fire engines go there because of their lightness and quickness of action, and our agricultural implements are sought for everywhere.

Gen. HAZEN closes his letter as follows:

In fairly distributed wealth which alone can give sufficient exception from the exactions of life, necessary for the best culture, and the most desired condition of humanity, the United States is advancing more rapidly and steadily than any other country. Our homes are incomparably superior in comfort and conveniences to those of any other people. To our women are given a broader life, a better education; they are more respected and honored than any others in the world, and in return they are truer wives and better mothers, while our men are chivalrous and generous; have trust in their wives, and love and content in their families. And our people have gained all these advantages honorably, and are entitled to the consideration the world gives.

In making labor honorable, education universal, place and social consideration free to all who show themselves worthy of them, the people have had the most powerful incentives held out for them to do their very best, and the results could not fail to be what they are. It is probable our part in the progress of human development is to work out for the new continent what Rome did for the old, with the advantage of her best experience, the later discoveries of science, a better religion, a more humane mortality and a broader code of justice.

SHALL EDUCATION BE COMPULSORY?

The Superintendent of Public Instruction in Pennsylvania is about to bring a bill before the Legislature of that State to make education compulsory. It was formed after a careful consideration of the needs of the poor, and was the result of a conviction that something must be done for the great mass of neglected children growing up to become the future criminals that will fill the jails and penitentiaries. The bill provides for "the arrest of vagrant boys and girls by the district school authorities; the fining of parents and guardians neglecting to educate their charges; the establishment of country homes which must be located half a mile distant from any almshouse, for the care of destitute children; the enforcement of existing laws regulating the employment of minors in factories and mines."

This movement, it is to be hoped, the Legislature of Pennsylvania will forward not alone in the interests of that State, but for these waifs of humanity elsewhere. The reasons why such a law should be made operative all over the United States are many and cogent.

The number of children who are floating around our streets, uncared for and growing up to become paupers and criminals is increasing every day. Since the stability of the Government depends upon the character and intelligence of the people, it follows that it is of vital importance to the whole nation that every child be cared for and placed in a way to live a decent and respectable life. Provision should be made by every State for the gathering of all her little ones into good schools in spite of adverse circumstances, that they may become useful citizens. If they are thrown destitute upon the world, nomss ought to be provided at the public expense, where they may be away from the degrading influences of pauperism, and be taught self-respect by a subjection to the civilizing influences of good associations. This is simply carrying the principles upon which the public schools are founded a little further, but to a perfectly legitimate end.

Compulsory education has been tested sufficiently to show that it is the only certain prevention of the increase of ignorance and vice. It is not enough that a child may be educated; it must be, nolens volens. The safety of the nation demands it, and it is the duty of the Government, instituted solely to guard the well-being of the people, to see that it is done. When laws for this purpose are made and carried out, the streets of our cities will be cleared of their crowd of embryo criminals, and the great mass of ignorant voters, that now have the impudence to come into the United States Senate and ask that the Government shall be compelled to pay them nearly 20 per cent. more for their silver than it is worth.

THE UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD.

People are at last aroused to a consciousness that the management of the Union Pacific Railroad needs looking after, and the late report of the Government Directors shows what those who have examined into the matter have known for years, that its whole business has been conducted, not for the interest of the general public, but to fill the coffers of the Company. It, like the Central Railroad, is a vast monopoly operated for the benefit of the few. The expenses have been kept down to the lowest possible point. Repairs and improvements have only been made when it was absolutely necessary, and at the present time, it is shown by the report, that no attempt has been made to substitute steel rails for the worn out iron ones, a thing which has been done upon all the larger Eastern trunk lines and should be upon this road. Meanwhile, the profits for years have been large. Excessive charges for transportation have been the rule, and the exceptions were for the favored few, who could obtain special rates by being hand in glove with the controlling officers of the line, to the manifest injury of the shippers not so fortunate. Immense sums of money have been pocketed by the management, while the travelling and business public have suffered in consequence.

It is time that this sort of thing was stopped. The Union Pacific Railroad was built chiefly with the people's money. This sum of $30,000,000 was, to be sure, in the nature of a loan, upon which the Company pays interest at six per cent. but the loan was made for the good of the whole country and not for individuals. It was expected that the aim of the road would be to develop the sections through which it passes; that the officers would bend their energies to the extension of the great interests committed to their care, instead of pursuing the narrow, selfish policy which has hitherto marked the management.

Up to the time of the passage of the Thurman funding bill, not a shadow of effort had been made to provide for the future payment of the Road's vast debt to the Government. This bill, as is well-known, was opposed in every possible way by Mr. GOULD and his friends, but it went through in spite of their efforts. The step taken, it is to be hoped that Congress will not be delicate in insisting upon a thorough supervision of Road matters, and the inauguration of a more liberal policy even if the net earnings be considerably less in the future than they have been in the past.

The rather timid report of the Government Directors faintly suggests several changes which would be for the public interest, but whether they will be carried out by legislation is a question. Judging from the experience of the last few years it is not probable, but the fact that the general public is beginning to be aroused to a consciousness of the impositions practiced upon it, gives some ground for hope. And while dealing with the Union Pacific, it would be well if the affairs of the Central Pacific could be examined into, and the magnates who are absorbing the railroad interests of the whole Pacific Coast to their own benefit, be shorn of their arbitrary power.

JACKSONIANISM.

Senator THURMAN developes an enthusiastic reverence for JACKSON, and wants the Democratic party to renew its olden devotion to that individual and to what Senator THURMAN calls "his principles." This suggestion at this moment provokes curiosity. It is speaking rather loosely to say that JACKSON ever had any "principles"—that is, understanding by principles, motives of conduct evolved by careful consideration of what was best for the country. While undoubtedly an honest man as public men and Democratic politicians go, it is not safe for any careful man to assert that JACKSON'S policy was as a rule suggested or controlled by statesmanlike reasons. His antipathy to the United States Bank was almost wholly a partizan warfare upon the men connected with it, and who were his political opponents. His fierceness against nullification was largely hatred of his rival, JOHN C. CALHOUN. But, leaving out of consideration the passions which energized them, the "principles" popularly considered as predominant in JACKSON'S make-up, were a fanaticism for national unity and metallic money. Does Mr. THURMAN mean to blow upon the almost dead embers of Jacksonianism to rekindle the old Democratic passion for bullion? It will be hard to make it mean anything else. The great objection to any present revival of Jacksonianism will be that its opponents can say that its professed adherents abandoned both its chief tenets—unionism and hard money—at the times when those principles were in the greatest danger. They were the ones who originated and conducted the assault, when they should have been the leading defenders. They will hardly gain any credit now for being followers of JACKSON'S ideas, when those ideas owe all their vitality to the non-success of Mr. THURMAN and his friends.

WILL IT BE LEVEED?

If the plan for leveeing the Mississippi be accepted, it will be interesting to know what its projectors intend to do with the 40,000 miles of navigable rivers that flow in to it. Will they carry out the system to what might be called an indefinite extent, for the necessity of leveeing these streams will be as great as for the mighty river itself. This it will be impossible to do. After the immense expense has been saddled upon the country, it will be found that the object will not be accomplished. The lands behind the levees, instead of being reclaimed and made fruitful, will be turned into vast swampy basins by the rainfalls, the overflow of the small streams and creeks, and the gathering of the sipe waters. Malarial poisons, produced by the rapid growth and decay of rank weeds and vegetable grasses, will fill the air, and render the valley fit only for the abode of loathsome reptiles and vicious animals. Human beings will be compelled to abandon it entirely, just as they have been in the case of the vicinity of large rivers in Europe and Asia. It will be a sad day for this country when the National Government decides to carry out the system of levees now proposed.

THE trade dollar question is in no wise connected with that of the double standard. The Government has no responsibility for the trade dollar. It simply coined a number of them to accommodate some merchants in the China trade. Speculators found that they could pass these upon the people of this country for more than their real value, and they did succeed in unloading about 25 millions upon the laboring classes, at a net profit to vesselsthem of something like $3,750,000. They have bought back several millions of the depreciated coin at its lowest price, and now have the impudence to come into the United States Senate and ask that the Government shall be compelled to pay them nearly 20 per cent. more for their silver than it is worth.

For the Toledo Blade.

NUMISMATICS.

The Character of the Ancient Romans, pertaining to their Coins and Medals, and the Knowledge We Derive from Them.

Coins are memorials of historical facts, more certain because more permanent and unalterable than the writings of the historian. There is not now in existence that was actually written by the hand of any author who lived a few hundred years ago, a single manuscript, except mutilated fragments, buried in Herculaneum or the Catacombs of Egypt; but there are many historical documents in metal and marble, which have survived the lapse of more than 2,000 years, and are as legible as when they were first published. Such documents then, when known to be genuine, are irresistible evidence which no future historian can controvert, because they are not liable to the corruptions and uncertainties introduced by copyists into manuscripts which are of necessity transcribed at intervals as the materials on which the writing was originally made, fall into decay. The study, therefore, of coins and gems is recommended to our notice by many interesting circumstances, as displaying the most unerring and best preserved monuments of ancient art, as conveying to us the dress and manners of the times to which they belong; as making us acquainted with the characters and features of the persons they represent; but, above all, as illustrating the events to which their fabrication alludes, and so becoming the standard of history, and the testimony of its truth and falsehood.

The Romans used to register the great actions of peace that turned to the good of the people, as well as those of war. The remission of a debt, the taking off a duty, the giving up a tax, the mending a port, or the making a highway, were not looked upon as improper subjects for a coin. They were glad of any opportunity to encourage their Emperors, in the humor of doing good, and knew very well that many of these acts of beneficence had a wider and more lasting influence on the happiness and welfare of a people, than the gaining a victory or the conquest of a nation. Had we struck in with the practice of the ancient Romans, we should have had medals on the fitting up of our several docks, the making of our rivers navigable, the building of our men-of-war, and the like subjects that have certainly very well deserved them. The reason why it has been neglected may possibly be this: The authorities have had the coining of their own medals, and perhaps may have thought it would look like vanity to erect so many trophies and monuments of praise to their own merits; whereas among the ancient Romans, the Senate had a watchful eye on their Emperor, and if they found anything in his life and actions that might furnish out a medal, they did not disdain making it so acceptable an offering. 'Tis true their flatteries betray often such a baseness of spirit as one would little expect to find among such an order of men.

And here, by the way, we may observe that you never find anything like raillery or satire on old coins. Whatever victories were gotten on foreign enemies, or the several pretenders to the Empire obtained over one another, they are recorded on coins without the least bitterness or reflection.

The Emperors often jested on their rivals or predecessors, but their mints still maintained their gravity. They might publish invectives against one another in their discourses or writings, but never on their coins. Had we no other histories of the Roman Emperors but those we find on their money, we should take them for the most virtuous race of Princes that mankind was ever blessed with; whereas, if we look into their lives, they appear, many of them, such monsters of lust and cruelty as are almost a reproach to human nature. Medals are, therefore, so many compliments to an Emperor, that ascribe to him all the virtues and victories he himself pretended to. Were you to take from hence all your information, you would fancy Claudius as great a conqueror as Julius Cæsar, and Domitian a wiser Prince than his brother Titus. Tiberius, on his coins, is all mercy and moderation; Caligula and Nero are fathers of their country; Galba, the patron of public liberty; and Vitellius, the restorer of the City of Rome. In short, you have a mind to see the religious Commodus, the pious Caracalia, and the devout Heliogabalus, you may find them in the inscription or device of their medals. On the contrary, those of more modern make are often charged with irony and satire. Our Kings no sooner fall out than their mints make war upon one another, and their malice appears on their medals. One meets sometimes with very nice touches of raillery, but as we have no instance of it among the ancient coins I leave the reader to determine whether or not it ought to find a place there.

There are several modern coins that have had part of their legend running round the edges like the *Decus et Tutamen*, so that a few years probably wore out the action that the coin was designed to perpetuate. The ancients were too wise to register their exploits on so nice a surface. The figures and letters on some old coins are so mingled together, that one would think the coiner was confused as to what part of the coin to bestow the several words of his inscription. I give you the reverse of a coin stamped by the Empress of Germany on the raising of the seige of Vienna. *Vienna, Austriæ, 4-14 IVLII, A B Achmete II Obsessa 2-12 Sept. Evinsperato Abeo Deserta Est.* I should take this for the paragraph of a newspaper rather than the inscription of a medal. Compare with this the brevity and comprehensiveness of those legends that appear on ancient coins: *Salvus Generis Humani. Tellus Stabilita. Gloria Orbis Terræ. Pacator Orbis. Restitutor Orbis Terrarum. Gaudenne Reipublicæ. Hilaritas Populi Romani. Pulla Faustenianæ. Rex Parthus datus. Victoria Germanica. Ara Sanctæ. Juncta Capita. Amor Mutuus. Genetrix Orbis. Saturnius Recepta. Genio Senatus. Restitutori Hispaniæ. Adventui Aug. Brittianiæ. Regna Adsignata. Adlocutio. Felicitas Publica. Rex Armenius datus.* What a majesty of force does one meet with in these short inscriptions. It is amazing to see so much history gathered into so small a compass. We have often the subject of a volume in a few words.

WILLIAM WALLACE.

Jerry Black's Story.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

Judge Black, of Pennsylvania, tells a comical story of a trial in which a German doctor appeared for the defence in a case for damages brought against a client of his by the object of his assault. The eminent jurist soon recognized in his witness, who was produced as a medical expert, a laboring man who some years before and in another part of the country, had been engaged by him as a builder of post and rail fences. With this cue he opened his cross-examination. "You say, Doctor," he began with great deference and suavity, that you operated upon Mr. ——'s head after it was cut by Mr. ——?"

"Oh, yaw," replied the ex-fence builder, "me do dat; yaw, yaw."

"Was the wound a very severe one, Doctor?"

"Enough to kill him if I not save his life."

"Well, Doctor, what did you do for him?"

"Everything."

"Did you perform the Cæsarian operation?"

"Oh, yaw, yaw; if me not do dat he die."

"Did you decapitate him?"

"Yaw, yaw, me do dat too."

"Did you hold a post mortem examination?"

"Oh, to be sure, Schudge; me always do dat."

"Well, now, doctor," and here the Judge bent over in a friendly, familiar way, "tell us whether you submitted your patient to the process known among medical men as *post-and-rail fencorum*?"

The mock doctor drew himself up indignantly. "Scherry Plack," says he, "I always know'd you was a tam jay-hawk lawyer, an' now I know you for a tam mean man."

EIGHT YEARS' SHRINKAGE.

Comparison of Prices—1870–1878.

Philadelphia Bulletin.

We present our readers with a tabular statement of the wholesale prices of groceries in common use, taken from the trade price lists of Messrs. Reeves, Parvin & Co., of South Front street, Philadelphia, for the month of December in each of the following years: 1870, 1874, 1877, and 1878. Also, a statement of the shrinkage per cent. in value of each article for the past eight years, and for the past 12 months. It will be noticed that the shrinkage this year has been nearly equal to one-half that of the past eight years, showing an average of 20 per cent. for 1878, against 46 per cent. for the whole period under review.

With a corresponding, if not greater, reduction in cost of provisions, breadstuffs, fuel and house rents, and a shrinkage beyond recognition in values of textile fabrics and other products of machinery, it may surely be conceded now that the full effects of resumption have been anticipated; that the hard times have done their worst, and that we will enter the new year with a solid hard money foundation upon which to build for the future. These figures show that the mercantile classes have shared with the laborer and the producer in the full effects of the contraction period, which happily ended on the 17th inst., when the paper money of the country came to par with gold.

Comparative statement of wholesale prices of Groceries in December 1870, '74, '77 and '78, showing the shrinkage in values. From price list of Reeves, Parvin & Co.

	Dec. 1870.	Dec. 1874.	Dec. 1877.	Dec. 1878.	Percentage of shrinkage during eight years.	Percentage of shrinkage during past 12 months.
Granulated Sugar	13½	10⅞	9¾	8⅛	39	6
Yellow Extra C	12¼	9⅝	8	7	43	12
Sugar						
Choice New Orleans Molasses	80	72	54	45	44	17
Best Refined Syrup	70	58	53	44	37	17
Green Rio Coffee	21	21	19	13½	36	29
Prime Roasted Rio Coffee	24	24	22	16½	31	25
Superior Oolong Tea	65	45	40	30	54	25
Prime Carolina Rice	8	8½	7	7	12	0
Factory Cheese	16½	12	11	9	45	18
Oleine Soap	7½	7½	6	5¾	23	4
Fine Salt, per sack	2 00	2 00	1 85	1 33	46	28
Fine Salt, Dairy, bag	8	5½	4	3½	56	12
Layer Raisins, box	3 00	3 25	2 10	1 80	40	14
Valencia Raisins, pound	14½	11½	7¾	6¼	56	19
Preserved Citron	38	37	31	13½	29	10
Dried Currents	13	7	7	5¼	63	36
Dried Apples	8	7	6	5¾	28	4
Dried Peaches	10½	10½	7	3¾	64	46
Canned Tomatoes, 2 lb	1 30	1 30	1 25	95	69	24
Canned Corn, 2 lb	2 30	2 00	1 90	1 50	47	20
Canned Marrow Fat	2 30	1 75	1 75	95	42	46
Kingsford's Starch	10	8	8	8	20	25
Marrow beans, bu	3 25	2 75	2 60	1 95	40	25
Pure Ground Pepper	32	31	17	17	47	0
Refined Coal Oil	23	14½	10½	12	48	20
Average total shrinkage					47	20

RAISINS.

How They are Prepared.

A strip of land bordering on the Mediterranean, somewhat less than one hundred miles in length, and in width not exceeding five or six, is the raisin-producing territory of Spain. Beyond these boundaries the muscatel grape, from which the raisin is principally produced may grow and thrive abundantly; but the fruit must go the market or the wine press. When the grape begins to ripen in August the farmer carefully inspects the fruit as it lies on the warm dry soil, and one by one clips the clusters as they reach perfection. In almost all vineyards slants of masonry are prepared, looking like unglazed hot beds, and covered with fine pebbles, on which the fruit is exposed to dry. But the small proprietor prefers not to carry his grapes so far. It is better, he thinks, to deposit them nearer at hand, where there is less danger of bruising, and where bees and wasps are less likely to find them. Day by day the cut bunches are examined and turned, till they are sufficiently cured to be borne to the house, usually on the hill-top, and there deposited in the empty wine-press till enough has been collected for the trimmers and packers to begin their work. At this stage great piles of rough-dried raisins are brought fourth from the wine-press and heaped upon boards. One by one the bunches are carefully inspected, those of the first quality being trimmed of all irregularities and imperfect berries, and deposited in piles by themselves. So, in turn, are treated those of the second quality; while the clippings and inferior fruit are received into baskets at the feet of the trimmers, and reserved for the home consumption. A quantity of small wooden trays are now brought forward just the size of a common raisin box, and about an inch deep. In these papers are neatly laid, so as to lap over and cover the raisins evenly deposited in the trays, which are then subjected to heavy pressure in a rude press. After pressing, the raisins are dropped into the boxes for market.

The Widow of Daniel Webster.

Twenty miles from New York, near the line of the New Haven Railway, is the semi-quaint olden-time village and semi-urban town of New Rochelle. A steep flight of stairs le

Answers to Correspondents.

We are obliged to remind our readers that there are certain classes of questions which we cannot undertake to answer, viz.:

1. Those not accompanied by the name of the writer. The name is not required for publication but only as an evidence of good faith. All letters not complying with this rule find their way at once into the waste basket.

2. Mathematical problems, and questions in grammatical construction. We are willing to give all our readers an opportunity to ask and answer the former, but we have not the type necessary for publishing algebraic problems and solutions.

3. Questions which in the judgment of the editor are not appropriate or proper for the columns of the BLADE. Hundreds of questions come to this department every week, and the editor must be allowed to exercise his discretion in making selections calculated to promote the general interest.

4. Inquiries as to the standing or reliability of individuals, firms, or corporations, being a general business. The BLADE'S endorsement is too valuable to be bestowed indiscriminately and it is not always possible for us to devote the time necessary to ascertain the standing of an individual or a firm located in distant parts of the country.

MRS. W. J. R., Elk Falls, Kans.—Sorry to say we cannot.

M. F. R., Logan, Kans.—The BLADE Household Map is colored by counties. The price is $1.40.

L. S. B., Blue Grass, Ioa.—If we mistake not, the phonographs are not sold, but only rented. Write to T. A. Edison, Menlo Park, N. J.

W. McM., Keokuk, Ioa., wishes to obtain the address of C. M. Johnson, who worked for a farmer near Des Moines, Ioa., last harvest.

DR. B. D., Mankato, Minn.: We advise you to address a card to the editor of the paper you name. We can give you no information.

M. L., Morrison, Ill.—The Rocky Mountain News, Times and Tribune, Denver; the Colorado Miner, Georgetown, and the Colorado Chieftain, Pueblo, Colo.

B. C. EATON, Hollidaysburg, Pa., would like the address of Amos G. Coleman, who was a surgeon in the 103d Pennsylvania Volunteers in 1863. He was from New Jersey.

W. J., might have "heard something to his advantage" if he had given his name and address in connection with his questions. As it is, his letter simply finds the waste-basket.

MRS. A. H., Effingham, Ill.—We think that Prof. Edison has not completed the instrument you name. Probably you might ascertain definitely by addressing a card to T. A. Edison, Menlo Park, N. J.

WM. J. L., Evansville, Ind.—We do not send any "New Year's Address" with the BLADE. We might borrow one for you somewhere if you like. 2. See the paragraphs at the head of this department.

JAMES S., Ervin, Warsaw, Ills., writes: B. S., of Westerville, Ind., asks for the address of the sons of Daniel Essinger. George and Philip Essinger reside at Tiogo, Ills. They were formerly from Indiana.

W. C. J., Corry, Pa.—Write to Harper & Bros., New York, publishers of Harper's Magazine, and D. Appleton & Co., New York, publishers of Popular Science Monthly, and tell them what you want.

F. A. E., Pleasant Plain, Ioa., wishes to learn the whereabouts of Philip Drescher and Philip Messer, who formerly lived in Ohio, and who moved to Missouri, and when last heard from were in Jefferson county, Ioa.

J. N. McC., Bloomingdale, Ind.: You would probably find great difficulty in obtaining the books you name, as they are now entirely out of print. It would be merely an accident if you should find them, unless in the hands of some book-collector who would want to make you pay well for them.

W. K. McF., Poland, O., asks: "Will you please name some work on Protection, and one on the condition of the National Banks?"—Probably Prof. W. G. Sumner's "Protection in the United States," and the latest report of the Comptroller of the Currency at Washington will furnish you what you want.

MISS H. H., La Valle, Wis: If we knew any reason why the parties you name were not reliable, we certainly should not advertise their goods. But we must respect every man innocent till he proves otherwise, and in the case you name we have no further knowledge of the firm than is contained in their advertisement.

H. S., Waterville, Ind., asks: "What will cure warts?"—We have seen it stated that warts may be cured by taking a common Irish potato, cutting it in two, and applying the juice over each wart from two to three times a day. Mine have all disappeared, and as this remedy is handy for all. I thought it worthy of republishing.

WM. M. D., Dawn, Mo.—If you could tell us the postoffice and State of any person about whom you wish to inquire, we could tell you without difficulty whether he is a subscriber to the BLADE. But where we have only the name, we should have to read over the entire list in order to tell whether the person for whom we searched was on it or not.

S. J. Y. C., Wall Lake, Ia.: Euclid, the celebrated Grecian geometer, flourished about 323-283 B. C. He was the editor or author of most of the ancient systems of geometry extant. For about two thousand years no improvement was made on his labors, and his "Elements of Geometry" were considered an almost perfect standard.

W. M. H., Dixon, Ill., asks: "1. Can you give me the name of a good history of Russia? 2. Can registered gold bonds be changed for larger denominations after small ones have been taken?"—Dixon's Free Russia is a good work on modern Russia, (price $2, Harper & Bros., New York,) and for a more extended one Bell's History of Russia, published in London, would probably answer your purpose. The price is about $8 there. 2. We are inclined to think it doubtful.

W. S. M., Pulaski, N. Y., asks: "How many miles of narrow gauge road are there in the United States, and how many in Canada?"—We are without late statistics. But in the beginning of 1875 there were in the United States 2,025 miles of narrow gauge finished, 511 miles under construction, and 6,000 miles projected, many of which have since been finished. In Canada at the same time 304 miles were finished and 880 projected.

A. B., Fowler, Ind., asks: "When and by whom was alcohol first discovered? I have had a controversy in regard to it, and I contend that it first existed in the form of powder. If I am in error I wish to be corrected."—Pure spirit of wine, or hydrated alcohol, is said to have been obtained by the distillation of fermented liquors by Abucasis early in the 12th century. Alcohol has never been reduced to a solid state, but becomes thick and viscid at very low temperatures, say 50 to 80 degrees below zero.

A. A. H., Ulysses, Pa., asks if there is no work on mason's trade, mixing mortars, etc. He finds no two agree as to the amount of lime, sand and hair for plaster, mortar. He says: "In answer to Mrs. J. A. A., I will say that the *bud* of maple and hemlock can be procured in the forests here, or, what would be better, cuttle sprouts of one or more years growth, of which the woods are full."—Any good mason ought to be able to give you the needed directions regarding the mixture of mortar. Of course the proportions will vary according to the work to be performed.

M. W., Lyndon, Ills., asks: "Is the moon a regular orbit around the earth? If so, what makes it appear to rise and set so much farther north sometimes than others?"—The moon has a regular orbit around the earth which she travels in 27½ days. The changes in her rising and setting are due largely to the inclination of the earth's equator to the ecliptic, and also to the inclination of the moon's orbit to the plane of the ecliptic. It may be remarked that with her libraions and other peculiarities, the moon's motions are decidedly complicated.

R. C. S., Forestville, Pa., asks: "Please inform me through the BLADE why this is called the 19th century, and settle a dispute."—The only reason we can give is the boy's reason, "because it is the 19th century." If you will stop and look at the matter a moment, you will see just how it is. The first century is the period between the year one and the year 100. The second century is the one between 100 and 200, and it ought not to be an incomprehensible proposition that the 19th century is the one between 1800 and 1900, since the year 1800 completes the 18th century.

MOSES, New Franklin, O., writes: "Let me say to the Nebraska eagle question that it reduces to two right-angled triangles: in the first we have the base and hypotenuse given, six and 10 miles respectively, from which we find the perpendicular to be eight miles, which is the distance from the middle of the chord marked by the eagle's flight, to the swan, or center of the circle. Each in the second triangle we have the base, eight miles, and the perpendicular, 17.18 miles, given: from which we find the hypotenuse, or distance from eagle to swan to be eight and one-eighteenth miles, or 42.55⅓ feet 4 inches."

F. G., Moulton, Ioa., asks: "What is the origin of the custom of saying "God bless you," when a person sneezes?"—There are two stories of its origin. Sir Walter Scott, in his "Demonology and Witchcraft," says that it was supposed long ago that when a man sneezed, devils were apt to jump down a man's throat, unless prevented from doing so by the pronunciation of this formula. The other tale is that in the time of Pope Palagius II. a plague raged at Rome, which was so fatal that when a man was seized with it, he died almost at once, gaping and sneezing whence came the custom you speak of.

A SCHOOL GIRL, Plainville, Minn., writes: "A controversy came up in our school a few days ago in regard to how the District of Columbia is governed. Does it have a Governor or not, and who is he, and how is he elected or appointed? If it has no Governor, what authorities govern it?"—The District of Columbia is governed very much as the other Territories of the United States, by the President, under such laws as are made for the government of Territories by Congress, under the authority of the Constitution. The District of Columbia is governed by a Legislature of its own, although prior to 1871 it was governed directly by Congress. Now it has a Representative in Congress, but prior to 1871 it had none. It has no Governor.

W. F. G., Jamestown, N. Y., writes: "I have received a copy of the new book catalogue which you sent me. I am not sure that I understand the plan on which it is arranged. Will you please explain it?"—In the new catalogue just issued we have arranged the books by subjects in alphabetical order. The same classification used in the first catalogues is preserved, but instead of having all the books of a class together, each book is marked with the letter of its class, viz., A. B. C. D., etc., as the case may be. Thus any book marked "A" and the BLADE one year, both postage paid, for $2.10. Any book marked "B" and the BLADE one year, both postage paid, for $2.25. Any book marked "C" and the BLADE one year, both postage paid, for $2.35. Of books marked "D," we have only one copy each. Books in the Juvenile Class and Special books (marked "S") have special prices which are given in the proper places.

A. G. S., West Lebanon, Ind., asks: "Will you please tell me how to make a good imitation of ground glass—one that will not readily rub off. I have tried a solution of epsom salts in beer, but that does not give satisfaction."—To make imitation ground glass that water or steam will not destroy, put a piece of putty in muslin, twist the fabric tight and tie it into the shape of a pad; well clean the glass first, and then putty it all over. The putty will exude sufficiently through the muslin to render the stain opaque. Let it dry hard, and then varnish. If a pattern is required, cut it out in paper as a stencil; place it so as not to split and proceed as above, removing the stencil when finished. If there should be any objection to the existence of the clear spaces, cover with slightly opaque varnish. In this way very neat and cheap signs may be painted on glass doors.

B. S., Stonington, Conn., writes: "A friend of mine has a steam engine which does not run steadily at all times. He now talks of putting on a larger fly wheel to create more power. I claim that he cannot increase the power of his engine by enlarging the fly wheel. Which is right?"—The fly wheel is merely a reservoir of power, and it adds nothing to the force of an engine. It is used to distribute this force and render it uniform under the impulses of varied forces, and against varied resistances. In an iron rolling mill, for instance, when the power meets the resistance of the bar or block that is to be treated, the motion would almost cease except for a very large fly wheel in which, by its rapid revolution, the power has been stored and is emptied as it is needed. If there is no other gearing to which the same power is applied, and in which by means of this principle it may be stored, a fly wheel must be used to secure a uniform motion; but as a whole no power is created by the wheel.

J. L. F. T., Zanesville, Ind., asks: "Please give a short history of the trade dollar—when, by whom, and for whom was it made? Was it a legal tender when first made? Is it a legal tender now? If so, for how much?"—We can only assume that our correspondent is a new subscriber, since we have been giving "short histories" of the trade dollar at frequent intervals during the past three or four years. Nevertheless: The trade dollar was first coined in 1873, under the authority of the coinage act of that year. It was coined for private parties, who wished to use it in their trade with China and Japan, but it was never adopted by the United States as one of its coins. It did not enter into circulation in this country at all during the earlier years that it was coined, for the simple reason that it was worth a premium of three to four cents on the dollar. For a time it was a legal tender in sums not exceeding $5, but it is not now a legal tender at all for any sum.

M. R. T., Latcha, O., answers the problem given by "Moses" thus: At the time of buying the note it must have been worth $100, plus the discount of $1.40, for one month, at the rate of 10 per cent. The discount of $1 for one month is 5-6 per cent., so the $100 only represents 100 per cent. minus 5-6 per cent., which leaves 99 1-6 per cent. Dividing $100 by 99 5-6 expressed decimally, gives $100.83⅓, the value of the note at maturity; but the note had drawn interest at 8 per cent. for three months, hence we must find the sum of money which will in three months amount to $100.83⅓; $98.85 answer.—The question of L. H. H. is answered thus: First, to find how far the eagle is from the swan when the eagle is half way across the lake, supposing that he is at the level of the water. To do this, we have a right angled triangle, bounded by the radius of the circle, one end of which intersects the circumference where the eagle's path does, and which is 10 miles long, as the lake is 20 miles in diameter. This radius is the hypotenuse of the triangle; the base is one-half the eagle's path (or the cord described by the path)—six miles; the perpendicular is found from this to be eight miles. Now we have the other triangle with base eight miles, perpendicular 17-18 mile, to find the other side.—Question: If a circle one foot in diameter contains one square foot, what diameter will contain seven square feet?

S. H. A., Pinkneyville, Mo., asks: "1. Was the story of Charley Ross' abduction true, or was the whole thing a hoax in order to make money? You will oblige by giving a condensed history of the matter. 2. Are there any Pagan contemporary historians in whose writings any mention is made of our Savior and His crucifixion? If so, who were they? 3. Do scholars generally regard the passage in Josephus relating to Christ as a forgery?"—1. No doubt exists in the minds of those best acquainted with the facts that Charley Ross was really stolen by parties who hoped to obtain a large reward for his recovery. We have given the history of the case so often that we dislike to go into the details again. A full history of the abduction and subsequent endeavors of the father to find his child was published in book form some two years ago by Mr. Ross. 2. Celsus and other early heathen writers give some account of Jesus and His acts while on the earth. They also describe the miracles, which they concede were actually performed, but allege that they were worked by magic, or else that they were too few and inconsiderable to establish the claims of Jesus to divinity. Busebius, one of the earliest of the uninspired Christian writers, (about 270 A. D.), gives in his works an account of a correspondence between Jesus and Abgarus, King of Edessa, although such account is not now regarded as anything more than a legend. 3. We think the preponderance of opinion is in favor of the genuineness of the accounts of Josephus.

S. A. T., Glenwood, Ioa., asks: "1. Why is zero used by our thermometers; that is, how did the same come to be used in telling the state of the atmosphere? I have always thought that 'boiling' and 'freezing' were the only correct points by which that could be ascertained. 2. Can a subscriber get as many books from you, at one-half of the price given in your list, as he wants, or is each subscriber only allowed one book at the reduced rates?"—1. The zero point of the Fahrenheit thermometer (which takes 32 as the freezing point) was supposed to be the place of absolute cold, that is, the absence of all heat or zero. It is said to have been found by plunging the bulb of the thermometer in a mixture of salt and ice, which gives intense cold. Under ordinary atmospheric pressure, water boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit. But of course the scale adopted is an arbitrary one, and the number of degrees between the freezing point and the boiling point of water may be just as many as you choose. For example, the Centigrade thermometer (constructed by Celsius, of Sweden,) fixes the zero point at the freezing of water, and divides the distance between that point and the boiling of water into 100 equal degrees, hence the name. The thermometer constructed by Reaumur, of France, also fixes the zero point at the freezing of water, and divides the space intervening between the boiling point into 80 equal degrees. The two last named thermometers are not popularly known in this country, while the Fahrenheit is in common use. 2. A subscriber is allowed to select just as many books as he chooses from our Catalogue, at half the published price.

W. S. S., Dixon, Ills., asks: "1. What is the total value of gold mined in this country? 2. Please give a short history of the gold premium during the past 17 years."—The total value of the gold mined from 1852 to 1875 (both years inclusive) is nearly three times the value of the silver mined during the same period, the gold being valued at $2,907,000,000 and the silver at $1,188,000,000. The annual production of gold is decreasing yearly, and has steadily fallen from $182,500,000 in 1852 to $81,500,000 in 1875, while the production of silver has risen as steadily from $40,500,000 in 1852 to $92,000,000 in 1875, the highest yield being that of the preceding year—$71,500,000. These figures include the production of the whole world. 2. January 18, 1852, the first premium was paid on gold, when it was quoted at 103. In July of that year the premium rose to 120, and by the end of the year it was quoted at 103¾. On the 11th of July, 1864, the quotation was 285, or 185 premium, which was the culminating point of the advance. In April of 1865 it had declined below 150, and was not again above that figure until June, 1866, when it was carried up to 167¼, selling at that price on the 18th. The year 1867 opened with gold at 132 to 133, and it did not go lower until about the close of the year 1869, when it was about 120. The "Black Friday" operations on the 24th of September, 1869, carried the premium up to 162¾, and on the same day it sold at 133. In 1870 the range was downward, and since the 16th of February of that year it has not been up to 120. On the 6th of November, 1873, the hight of the panic, gold was down to 103¾, and since then the highest rate was 117¾ in June, 1875.

MRS. FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT.

Personal Appearance and Characteristics of the Popular Writer—Her Early Life.

The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Enquirer* has paid a visit to Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett, the author of "That Lass o' Lowrie's." The correspondent says:

Mrs. Burnett is rather below than above the average height; is slight and supple, with a girlish grace of face and figure quite attractive; her features are full of expression, and never rest; her eyes are large, brown, soulful eyes, which dilate and flash and sparkle, or grow tender and mournful and hide beneath the long curling lashes, as the subject may be gay or sad; her nose squilline, with thin, sensitive nostrils, that contract and expand as emotion inspires her, and a mouth and chin full of sentiment. In relating a story the lips are only half parted, and when her soul is stirred by the pathos of what she is narrating, the retined lips quiver, and the chin vibrates with the imaginary sorrows she makes so realistic. This face, so full of genius, so rich in phase and so attractive in contour, is crowned by a luxurious suit of hair, which hangs in long rings about her intellectual forehead. In color it is auburn—not of the vivid red-gold, so-called, but the beautiful auburn immortalized by poets and artists since the days when the Virgin Mother became their inspiration. It is coiled in a loose mass at the back of her superbly poised and classical head.

In conversation Mrs. Burnett is animated and brilliant. Her language is well chosen, and is after the manner of Thomas Carlyle, a resemblance lying in the use of good, strong, short Anglo-Saxon words. She uses her hands in expressing her meaning, and very small, shapely hands they are. Her toilets are generally of some neutral tint, black being her favorite color. This she illuminates with bright, harmonious tints, and about her shoulders there is usually wound a lace or netted silk fichu. Her manners are easy and affable, and her bearing is full of unconscious grace. In all, she is a woman to be marked in a crowd.

EXIT STEAM.

Passenger Cars Driven by Compressed Air.

New York Sun.

An air car, or pneumatic dummy, made by the Pneumatic Tramway Engine Company, is running regularly on the Second avenue Railroad track, between 96th and 123d streets. The motive is compressed air. An engine at 126th street pumps the air car full as often as required. The vehicle is capable of carrying 100 persons. Nothing of the apparatus that runs the car is visible. Six rolled steel cylinders are situated beneath; two under the seats and four in an inclosed place under the body of the car. By the engine at 126th street air is condensed into them until it reaches a pressure of 350 pounds to the square inch. The six cylinders together hold 160 cubic feet of air. The driver of the car stands in front and manipulate a pair of levers similar to those employed in a steam locomotive. He is not necessarily an engineer; any one may learn the whole manipulation of the levers readily. The air compressed in the cylinders is capable of propelling the car for six miles, and the speed may be regulated up to 30 miles an hour. The car can be stopped almost instantaneously. By the manipulation of cylinders it is feasible to make trips almost any distance. The time required for charging the cylinders depends wholly upon the power of the engine employed; the car that is running is charged in about six minutes. No smoke, of course, and no noise greater than that made by the ordinary horse car attend its progress. The Second Avenue Company intend to have ready six cars of this sort to do their carrying between Ninety-sixth street and Harlem River by the first of February next.

A Quaint Old Letter.

Chicago Times.

That gentle servant of the Lord, the kind and tolerant Cotton Mather, a good man and a holy, is recalled to the memories of this generation just now because of the discovery of an interesting manuscript letter of his in the library of the Massachusetts Historical Society. It breathes the very perfume of the gospel of peace:

SEPTEMBER, 1682.

"To ye Aged and Beloved JOHN HIGGINSON:

"There be now at sea a shippe (for our friend Esias Holderaft of London did advise me by the last packet that it would sail sometime in August) called ye Welcome, R. Greenwas, Master, which has aboard a hundred or more of ye heretics and malignants called Quakers, with W. Penn, who is ye scamp at ye head of them. Ye General Court has accordingly given secret orders to Master Malachi Huxett, of ye brig Purpoise, to waylaye ye said Welcome, as near ye coast of Codd as may be, and make captives of ye Penn and his ungodly crey, so that ye Lord may be glorified and not mocked on ye soil for this new century with ye heathen worshipps of these people. Much spoil can be made by selling ye whole lot to Barbadoes, where slaves fetch good prices in rumme and sugar; and we shall not only do ye Lord great service by punishing ye wicked, but shall make gayne for His ministers and people.

"Yours, in ye bowels of Christ,

"COTTON MATHER."

Unfortunately the best-laid plans of mice and ministers gang aft agliee, and W. Penn and the passengers of the *Welcome* instead of transportation to Barbadoes and conversion there into rum and sugar for the delectation of the godly, reached Philadelphia in safety.

Auntie: "Cecil, don't be so rude! You should not kiss gentlemen!" Cecil: "Why not, auntie? You do?"

The Sunday School.

The Builders Interrupted.

LESSON 4, SUNDAY JANUARY 25, 1879.

GOLDEN TEXT: Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.—Neh. 4:9.

LESSON TEXT.

(Neh. 4: 7-10.)

1. But it came to pass, that when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites, heard that the walls of Jerusalem were made up, and that the breaches began to be stopped then they were very wroth. 8. And conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it. 9. Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them. 10. And Judah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall. 11. And our adversaries said, They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease. 12. And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times, from all places whence ye shall return unto us they will be upon you. 13. Therefore set I in the lower places behind the wall, and on the higher places, I even set the people after the families with their swords, their spears, and their bows. 14. And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them: remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses. 15. And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work. 16. And it came to pass from that time forth, that the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the habergeons; and the rulers were behind all the house of Judah. 17. They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon. 18. For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

When Sanballat, and Tobiah, . . heard that . . . the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth (v. 7.)—There is nothing which makes people madder than good news about other people. They can stand the misfortunes of their neighbors like heroes. But when those whom they dislike or envy are prospered, it is more than they can bear. A shopkeeper is sometimes sorrier than he will admit that his principal rival is coming bravely out of his financial embarrassments. The representative of a great steamship or railway line has been made very happy by the news that the recent depression in the stock or business of a similar concern is followed by a renewal of prosperity. Many a college student has secretly grieved to learn that his next competitor for honors is getting better of that alarming illness. Leaders in a great political party have been saddened by hearing that the recent divisions in the other party are all being healed. Even ministers have had heavy hearts over the signs of the stopping of breaches in that neighboring church which now seems likely to be more popular and efficient than ever. Are you sure that no prosperity to your neighbors would make you uncomfortable, if not full of wrath?

We made our prayer . . . and set a watch (v. 9.)—There are times when we must pray with our eyes open; when it is hardly safe to wink, lest we lose sight of our danger. Praying against danger is but a sham when it takes the place of watching against danger. If we pray that we may not be surprised by the enemy, we must watch lest the enemy surprise us. If we pray for strength to resist the enemy, we must watch for the enemy's coming, that we use our God-given strength effectively. If we pray that the enemy may not approach us, we ought to watch for an answer to our prayers, that we may be sure that the coast is clear on every side. There is no duty of calling on God for help that doesn't include the idea of doing something ourselves. "Watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation." "Stand therefore; . . . praying always with all prayer, . . . and watching thereunto with all perseverance." "Watch unto prayer." "Watch thou in all things."

There is much rubbish: so that we are not able to build (v. 10).—Open enemies are not the greatest hindrances to good work in this world. Rubbish stands in the way of progress as its chief obstacle, in every department of activity. Clear-ing up after the children, or after the dressmaker, or after last night's company, is quite an item in housekeeper's home labors, before she can start fair on the work which she now most wants to do. It is the accumulation of old letters and papers on the office desk which commonly holds back a man from to-day's best business. It is the rubbish of worthless material, the remains of former unwise gatherings and leavings, which crowd the store-rooms, and fill the library shelves, so as to conceal or render valueless the choicer things there. In the books themselves, and in periodicals of every sort, how much there is of rubbish; and how much that rubbish hinders progress. There is so much rubbish in our mental furnishing that we are puzzled how to get down through it, and how to make serviceable the good building material below. There is a great deal of rubbish in the average Sunday-school teaching; such piles of useless scraps of chronology and geography; or of worn-out platitudes of religious speech; or of formal exhortations; and of pointless story telling, that there seems no chance of substantial building with the solid blocks of the Bible facts and doctrines. How can we get rid of the rubbish which stands in the way of our working? That is the practical question for us all.

They said unto us ten times, . . . They will be upon you (v. 12).—If a man is in dead earnest he will not be satisfied with saying a thing once, if once saying it does not accomplish his purpose. If he sees a house on fire, he will not cry "Fire!" just once, and there leave the matter, whether the neighborhood is aroused or not. If he see a man carelessly on the railroad track, while the locomotive is coming down the road, he will cry out 10 times for him to get off the track, if less times will not start him. If one whom we know is in any danger, we ought to warn him of his danger over and over again. Once warning him will not clear our skirts if it does not arouse him to action. If you would teach a truth that is worth remembering you must repeat it, to your child or your scholar, 10 times, if nine times will not fix it in his mind. "How can you tell that child the same thing 20 times over?" asked the father of the Wesleys of his persistent and determined wife. "Because, my dear, 19 times were not sufficient," was the convincing reply. Whatever is worth saying once is worth saying 10 times, if 10 times are needful to make it effective.

Remember the Lord, . . . and fight (v. 14).—Trust in God quickens activity, not slackens it. It nerves the strong arm, not paralyses it. It is while we remember God's readiness to make our honest labors effective, that we work with a will for our daily bread, that we push forward in business, that we study and write and preach in the conviction that our toil will tell on ages, tell for God. The men who remember the Lord in his power and goodness are the men who rise up against all odds, and battle evils in high places and low, with never a thought of being overborne and defeated. It is these who back up against the Rock of Ages, and defy the universe, who have faith in God, and prove it as courageous to the Lord Jesus Christ. A readiness to fight for God's cause is a test of loving, faith-filled remembrance of God.

With one of his hands wrought, . . . and with the other hand held a weapon (v. 17).—It is not often that we can give our undivided attention to any good work. There are enemies to be looked out for even while we are doing what God has set us to do. Duty and danger are inseparable in this life. The dangers cannot all be removed first, and then the duty undertaken. The sword in one hand and the trowel in the other is the way the building must go on to the end. It would seem hard enough to have the boy's training on our hands, if there were nothing else to be looked after. But there are those neighbors' children with their shocking example, and those others with the whooping-cough. What a fight life is! What weapon of defense do you hold in one hand? And what good work are you doing with the other?—*H. Clay Trumbull, in S. S. Times.*

PITH AND POINT.

Satan is contracting for new pavement; material to be delivered within the next 30 days.—*Lynn Reporter.*

Myra Clark Gaines spends $30 a year for dress.—*Boston Post.* That's because her suits last so long.—*Phila. Eve. Bulletin.*

We would not wish Eli Perkins dead, but we would like to hear that he had commenced to light his fires with kerosene.—*Danbury News.*

Says an exchange—"Even small boys carry arms in this town." Awful, ain't it? Even the little flowers carry pistils in this wicked City.—*Keokuk Constitution.*

There is a rumor that Queen Victoria will give up the throne to Albert Edward this year. We Western folks who correspond regularly with Her Majesty know this statement to be without foundation.—*Detroit Free Press.*

"Rather than touch another drop of liquor," said a zealous convert at a temperance meeting at Alton, Ill., the other night, "I would take a razor and blow out my brains."

The Chicago *Inter-Ocean* uses a column in which to tell us who to marry. We know who to marry, but she won't do it.—*Aurora (Ill.) Daily News.*

"Who brayed there?" asked a member of the Canadian House of Commons of the persons who were trying by interruption to silence him. "It was an echo," retorted a voice.

"Marriage," says a cynic, "is like putting your hand into a bag containing 99 snakes and one eel. You may get the eel, but the chances are against you."

A courtly negro recently sent a reply to an invitation, in which he "regretted that circumstances repugnant to the requisence would prevent his acceptance of the invite."

Distinguished Divine (to recent convert)—"We propose to baptize you by the Turkish bath method. It is really the only mean to scrub your years of sin out of you."

"What's your occupation?" asked a visitor at the Capitol of a brigat boy whom he met in the corridor. The boy happened to be a page in the House. "I'm running for Congress," was the reply.

Why is it that the papers all print a list of "the distinguished dead of 1878" and never have a word to say about the eminent people who were born during the past year?—*Cincinnati Saturday Night.*

A Chicago youth went skating on the rink, and calling on a celebrated prenologist the next day, was told that his bumps pointed him out to be the coming great genius of the world.—*Chicago Journal.*

In Canada, when the snow doesn't lie three feet on the ground from the first of December to the middle of March, and the ice is less than 22 inches thick, and only a dozen persons are frozen to death, the Canadian calls it a "mild winter."—*Norristown Herald.*

The late Mr. McNab, curator of the Edinburgh Botanic Garden, thus criticised Dubufe's painting of Adam and Eve: "I think no great things of the paint. Why, man, Eve's temptin' Adam wi' a pippin of a variety that wasna known until about 20 years ago!"—*Phila. Eve. Bulletin.*

The Postmaster of Saratoga has just sent to Washington for redemption $105 in silver three-cent pieces. They were spent by guests last Summer for fees to the once proud and haughty waiters that used to reject with scorn anything less than a dollar.

In the near future the customer will say unto the bar-keeper, "Gimme a cocktail with plenty of glucose and citric acid, and not too much methylated spirit," and having tasted will say, "Not quite so sweet as I usually take it—a little more murinte of tin, please."

'Good day, Mose! How you vas shanged. Vouldn't never hafe know'd you!" "But my name is not Moses, sir." "Great befens! your name shanged, too!"

"What would you do if a girl kissed you?" said one ten-year-old urchin to another, as they discussed the latest society news. "What would I do? I'd kiss her back. What would you do?" "Kiss her mouth," was the portentous eply.

"What a duck you are!" said an admiring lover to his sweetheart, when she came down in full party dress. "Why, Augustus, how absurd! Don't you perceive the difference between me and a duck?" "Sure enough, Angelina. You are dressed to kill, and a duck is always killed to dress."

The last ill-natured story about Chicago is that 25 cents is exacted for the privilege of viewing what is reckoned the choicest curiosity which the great Lake City can show, viz., the only unmortgaged piece of ground.

"Say, Johnsing, why does you remind me of a mad dog?" said one colored brother to another, who was rumbling under a buffalo robe. "Gubit up," was the answer. "Kase you's got hide-rough-ober-yer! Yah, yah!"

"What makes dogs mad?" asks an exchange. Boys. It makes a dog mad as a wet hen the minute he sees a boy with a can in one hand and a string in the other, looking for something to tie them to.—*Hawkeye.*

The small boy who stuck his fist through a glass door remarked, as he bandaged a severe gash in the back of his hand, that it was a paneless operation for the door.—*New Haven Register.*

Jones, who has been reading about "Balder, the beautiful," says he has never been praised for his beauty, and he is only a little bald; he wonders if he would be thought beautiful if he were balder.—*B. Transcript.*

The only compensation for the agony felt by a lady who is obliged to trot behind a bob-tailed car for a block and a half before she can get on, is the calm inward consciousness she feels of having arrayed herself in a pair of red stockings before she came down town.

Hostess [whispering to distinguished amateur]—"I want you to sing next." Distinguished Amateur [whose voice is not quite what it used to be]—"I thought I wasn't to sing till quite the end." Hostess—"Yes, but there are not legs enough, and I want some of the people to go."—*Punch.*

A gentleman in Battle Creek, Mich., owns a cribbage-board which is elaborately constructed entirely of human bones. It was made by a soldier in the army of Wellington, when engaged in fighting Napoleon, and the bones of which it is constructed belonged to dead Frenchmen.

We came very near to receiving five oranges on one stem, which took the premium at the Florida fruit exhibition, and which weighed 10 pounds. They were sent to us by Mr. Cyrus White, of that State, but were appropriated in transit by some one who designs undoubtedly to go into the newspaper business himself.—*Danbury News.*

Fanny Davenport, it is said, has engaged to marry a commission merchant of Pittsburg. Now we call upon Miss Davenport to be cautious. Pittsburg is a bad place, and commission merchants are always uncertain. We have no doubt that a little investigation would show this Pittsburg scoundrel to be a stealer of horses and lots of things. Beware, gentle one, beware.—*Buffalo Express.*

A person who was recently called into court, for the purpose of proving the correctness of a surgeon's bill, was asked by the lawyer, whether "the doctor did not make several visits after the patient was out of danger?" "No," replied the witness, "I considered the patient in danger as long as the doctor continued his visits."

Will science please stand up and tell us why a girl who freezes to death every time she has to sweep off the front steps, can ride 15 miles in a sleigh with nothing around her but some other girl's brother's arm, without even getting a blue nose?—*Pittston Press.* Answers from Mr. Tyndall or Mr. Huxley will be published in pamphlet form.—*N. Y. Express.*

PULVERMACHER'S SPECIALTIE

ADDRESS!

To the Weak, Nervous, and Debilitated, who Suffer from Ill-Health consequent on Lingering, Chronic, Nervous or Functional Diseases.

External Remedies are the Safest

and best that can be applied in diseases, on account of the facility which we possess of watching their action and their results; and of these remedies Electricity, in the form of mild, continuous, and prolonged currents, as realized exclusively by

PULVERMACHER'S ELECTRIC BELTS AND BANDS,

has been found the most valuable, safe, simple, and efficient known treatment for the cure of disease. In our descriptive Pamphlet we review the manifold benefits to be derived from Pulvermacher's Appliances, and bring forward testimony in their favor from the most

Learned Physicians and Scientific Men

in Europe and this country. We also demonstrate why relief and cure result from their use after every other plan of treatment has failed. Reader,

Are You Afflicted,

and wish to recover the same degree of health, strength, and energy as experienced in former years? Do any of the following symptoms or class of symptoms meet your diseased condition? Are you suffering from ill-health in any of its many and multifarious forms, consequent on a lingering, nervous, chronic, or functional disease? Do you feel nervous, debilitated, fretful, timid, and lack the power of will and action? Are you subject to loss of memory, have spells of fainting, fullness of blood in the head, feel listless, moping,

Unfit for Business

or pleasure, and subject to fits of melancholy? Are your kidneys, stomach, urinary organs, liver or blood in a disordered condition? Do you suffer from rheumatism, neuralgia, or aches and pains? Have you been indiscreet in early years and

A Victim to Youthful Follies,

or carried the marital relation to excess in later years? Have these indiscretions and excesses left you in a weak and debilitated condition? Are you timid, nervous, and forgetful, and is your mind continually dwelling on the subject? Have you

Lost Confidence in Yourself

and energy for business pursuits? Are you subject to any of the following symptoms: dreams, palpitation of the heart, bashfulness, restless nights, broken sleep, nightmare, confusion of ideas, aversion to society, dizziness in the head, dimness of sight, pimples and blotches on the face and back, and other despondent symptoms? There are

Thousands of Young Men,

middle-aged, and even the old, who suffer from nervous and physical debility. There are also thousands of females

Broken Down in Health

and spirits from disorders peculiar to their sex, and who, from false modesty or neglect, prolong their sufferings. Why, then, further neglect a subject so productive of health and future happiness when there is at hand a means of cure? Why not throw off the yoke altogether, and seek a remedy that has

Science and Common Sense

to commend it?—a remedy of indisputable efficacy, and the most certain means of restoration to health and pristine vigor?

There are many diseases of an acute and febrile type that we do not propose to cure by means of Electricity; but from all that Electro-Physiology teaches us, in regard to the *modus operandi* of the

Curative and Preservative

effects of Voltaic Electricity, we may most reasonably infer that all those chronic ailments and all diseases dependent on a depressed condition of the nervous forces, exhaustion of nerve power, or the diminished energy of vital functions, as treated upon in our publications, are happily most susceptible of cure by means of

Pulvermacher's Electric Belts and Bands.

These conditions they will cure, while drugs will not; and we offer the most convincing testimony direct from the afflicted themselves who have been restored to

Health, Strength, and Energy

after drugging in vain for months and years.

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CINCINNATI, O.

THE TWO HEADED WOMAN.

Millie Christine Gives her Impression of Foreign Travel.

Philadelphia Times.

"The two-headed Nightingale and party" was what the register of an uptown hotel showed last night. It wasn't a bird or any other species of biped. So far from having two legs it had four. The hotel clerk was in a constant grin. It was evident that he had stored up some fine anticipations as to the surprise this singular announcement would cause people when they ran their eyes over the register. It was not every day a colored woman with two heads, four arms, four legs, four eyes, and two noses, two mouths, and two tongues, registered at the hotel, and the

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE COMPANY,

PROPRIETORS.

TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, JAN. 16 1879.

THE TOLEDO BLADE!

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NASBY.

MR. NASBY will make his appearance again next week. What the venerable philosopher will write about, we don't know, but he will doubtless be as instructive as usual.

SEND for our book catalogue. You never will be able to get books at half price, after what we have on hand are exhausted.

WE give this week a most instructive article on Arizonia Territoay, compiled from the recent report of Hon. J. C. FREMONT, Governor.

CAN'T you get a subscriber for the BLADE in your neighborhood? It won't take much work. Generally the showing of a copy suffices.

THE Democratic party was never so earnest in any thing as opposition to the war for the union, and to Resumption of specie payments.

SHOW the BLADE to your neighbors and say a good word for it whenever you have opportunity. We shall always appreciate favors of this character.

"Try not the pass," the old man cried;
"I'm 'ordered on,'" the youth replied.
—*Boston Com. Bul.*

"Try not the pass," the conductor sneers,
"Because, you see, it is last year's."

NONE of the lady readers of the BLADE will fail to be attracted to the latest "Home Lover" of our correspondent, SHIRLEY DARE, which finds a place on the fifth page of this issue.

WE do not agree with our exchanges who sneer at a New England man who has just finished collecting a million old postage stamps. Had he not been doing this he might have found less useful occupation as a Flatspeaker or writer.

THE BLADE is a much cheaper paper now than it was three years ago, since the constant addition of new features has made it in every respect more desirable. Notwithstanding the additional outlay involved, no increase has been made in the price.

CONGRESSMAN HARRISON'S death is another temperance lecture. He went on one of his periodical sprees during the recent cold snap, and caught a cold which ended him. The moral of which is: Don't get drunk in very cold weather.

THE Socialist Labor party of the United States propose to hold public mass meetings in all parts of the country, the 18th inst., for the purpose of condemning the action of the German government in suppressing freedom of speech.

IF WESLEY BISHOP'S story is true he ought to be hanged for endeavoring to save his worthless neck by the betrayal of one to whom he sustained such relations as he did to Mrs. CORN. If his story is not true, then he should be hanged for such terrible perjury.

I LEASE note that we place no limit on the number of books which may be ordered from our catalogue at half price. Every reader is at liberty to avail himself of our offer to the extent of as many books as he may wish.

A WOMAN in Waterproof, LA., writing to a Northern anti-slavery man, declares that the atrocities practiced by the Democrats about election time exceeded in horror those of the Bashi-Bazouks in Bulgaria. This is strong language, but the lady says it can be proved.

ORDER your books at once. You will never have such an opportunity again. Numbers of titles go off the list every day, and they cannot be replaced. While we shall always have books, we shall never be able to furnish them at so low a price, after this lot is exhausted.

CANNON, the Mormon Delegate from Utah in Congress, is making an effort to have the decision given last Monday, which makes polygamy a crime against United States laws, operative only so far as future marriages of this kind are concerned. Otherwise, it will bring ruin and desolation into the homes of many who honestly believe Mormonism to be the one true religion of the world.

COMPARE the BLADE with any other weekly paper published, and note the difference. The BLADE is made up with an eye single to the wants of the people. Every item in it is selected or written for the WEEKLY BLADE. It is not pick-forked together from the columns of a daily, but is carefully made up for a weekly. It is the best and cheapest paper in the world.

THE Russian authorities are resorting to the old, old policy of attempting to preserve the peace, by preventing the importation and circulation of revolutionary literature. They who counsel this have read history to little purpose. The French rulers tried that a century ago, with disastrous results. They can no more make the nation quiet and contented by gagging it than they can free a man from pain by stopping his mouth, so that he cannot groan.

MAJOR RENO'S case does not improve as the time of trial approaches. It is said that testimony will be produced to the effect that he was charged with cowardice on the field of the Little Big Horn, when he absolutely refused to go to CUSTER'S assistance when requested. His claims that he did not hear the firing will be disproved by officers, who will testify that the firing of a single carbine can be heard, no matter in what direction the wind is blowing, between the position RENO held, and where CUSTER and his 300 found their graves.

REMEMBER that the books we offer at half-price are the *identical* volumes sold by ordinary book sellers at double what we ask for them. We offer no books in cheap or inferior binding unless expressly so stated.

CURRENT EVENTS.

Probably the most significant political event of the week was the action of the POTTER Committee on Thursday in adopting a resolution ordering the investigation of the cipher telegrams. The motion was made by McMAHON (Dem.), of Ohio, and the Republican members of the Committee abstained from voting, leaving the motion to be carried exclusively by the vote of the Democratic members. The steady pressure of public opinion has proved too much for the adherents of TILDEN, and they can no longer ignore the issue that is forced upon them. There appears to be also a certain lingering belief in certain quarters that TILDEN may yet be a possible candidate in 1880, but it is doubtful that this delusion has any general hold even among TILDEN'S former supporters.

Two additional deaths are reported in the House of Representatives during the past week, Mr. HARTRIDGE, of Georgia, and SCHLEICHER, of Texas. The usual funeral ceremonies were held by the House in each case, and the usual expressions of respect and condolence incorporated into the House Journal. Both Finley, of Ohio, and Thornburgh of Tennessee, are reported to be seriously ill, and their recovery is regarded doubtful. The prevalence of pneumonia in an epidemic form has exerted a most demoralizing effect on the business of the House.

Considerable discussion is taking place in Washington over the Burnside Bill for the reorganization of the Army, and it seems doubtful that it will receive enough support to insure its passage. One of the principal objections against the bill is that it will subordinate the President and War Department to the General of the Army, and clothe him with an extent of authority not at all in consonance with American institutions. Representative ATKINS has drafted a bill which he designs to offer as a substitute, in which it is proposed to place the Army under the control of the Secretary of War, subject only to the higher authority of the President as Commander-in-Chief. We give a synopsis of the bill in our telegraph columns.

On Saturday the Republican Senators met in caucus to consider the question of finance, and to determine whether, in view of the eminent success which has attended resumption, it would be politic to make an effort to unite the Republicans upon this question. This was decided in the affirmative and a committee was appointed to frame a resolution to be reported to a subsequent meeting of the caucus, which, if adopted, will be presented to the Senate. There certainly would appear to be no valid reason why the question of resumption should be any longer a question at issue among Republicans.

Late Washington dispatches report a steady increase of the demand for the four per cent. bonds. The Register in the Treasury office has been obliged to double his force, and it is stated that in the subscriptions of Saturday were two for $1,000,000,000 each by New York banks. The greater part of the subscriptions, however, are in sums ranging from $50 to $500, showing that the bonds are being largely utilized as a means of investment for small savings.

Department of Agriculture reports for December state that the corn crop of 1878 is 30,000,000 bushels in excess of that of 1877. Oats, a somewhat larger crop than the heavy yield of 1877, constituting it the largest ever raised in this country. No material change in barley. Rye, one-sixth larger than 1877. Potatoes, a falling off of 45,000,000 bushels. The cultivation of sorghum is receiving increased attention, and the results of the year's culture are satisfactory. Twelve tobacco-growing States, representing the bulk of the total production, compared with last year, as follows: Kentucky, 93; Virginia, 73; Missouri, 56; Tennessee, 73; Ohio, 90; Maryland, 84; Indiana, 83; North Carolina, 89; Pennsylvania, 86; Illinois, 50; Connecticut, 80; Massachusetts, 95. Grapes, apples and pears show a greatly decreased yield.

A court of inquiry into the conduct of Major RENO at the time of the CUSTER massacre began its sessions in Chicago on Monday. It will hear all the evidence against Major RENO and then report to the authorities in Washington whether in their opinion a court martial is necessary.

A party of hostile Cheyennes imprisoned at Fort Robinson, Neb., since last October, made a desperate rush and broke away from their guards on Thursday night. They were fired upon, and over 40 of the number killed by the troops. The remainder were vigorously pursued and a portion of them captured, while others made their escape entirely. The outbreak arose from the report that the Indians were to be removed to the Indian Territory.

The Legislature of the State of Indiana convened for business on the 9th inst. The Senate effected an organization by a nominal division of the offices between the Democrats and Nationals. In the Senatoral canvass it seems probable that VORHEES will have his own way.

In the Illinois Legislature the Senatorial contest between LOGAN, OGLESBY, and FARWELL has been very lively during the past week. The Republicans were to hold their Senatorial caucuses on Tuesday evening, but we are without intelligence up to the time of going to press.

Jacksonville, Florida, advices say that a severe shock of earthquake was felt in that vicinity at midnight on the 9th inst., the movement lasting half a minute. The shock was felt at St. Augustine, down the gulf coast and throughout the interior of the State. Nothing of the kind was ever known in Florida before.

OUR BOOK CATALOGUE.

We shall send out with this issue and that of next week, copies of our new Book Catalogue to all the subscribers of the BLADE. The books contained in this new catalogue are classified by subjects arranged alphabetically, and each book is marked with the *letter* designating its class. Every book in the catalogue is sold, postage paid, at one-half the published or regular retail price. To ascertain what any book will cost in connection with the BLADE it is only necessary to note the letter annexed. Any book marked A and the BLADE one year, both postage paid, will be sent to any address on receipt of $2.10; any booked marked B and the BLADE one year, both postage paid, will be sent on receipt of $2.25, and any book marked C and the BLADE one year, both postage prepaid, will be sent on receipt of $2.35. Of books marked D we only offer one volume of each title. Books in the juvenile class, and special books (marked S), have special prices, which are given in the proper place.

THE INDIANS AGAIN.

The Indian Question was again brought prominently before the public by the publication of the terrible news from Fort Robinson concerning the Cheyennes. These were, it will be remembered, the prisoners taken last Summer, being a part of the band that left their reservation and going northward filled the country with horror at their terrible deeds of plunder and murder along the border. About 150 were confined at this post, and the treatment they have received has been outrageous in the extreme. Savages though they are, and guilty of atrocities that chill the blood with horror at the bare mention, a civilized and enlightened Government such as the United States claims to possess, should have given them, through its agents, the treatment that common humanity would dictate even to the meanest of its creatures. Contrary to this, they have been left almost naked by the Indian Bureau with the thermometer at zero, and with insufficient food to appease their hunger. Rendered desperate at last by the policy pursued towards them, the result was the attempt to escape described in yesterday's telegram, and the killing of some scores of the flying savages by the armed troops that pursued them, who, it is said, "shot them down by dozens in the frozen snows."

This sort of thing is abominable and needless, but there will be a constant repetition of such scenes, or of similar ones, so long as the present half-and-half policy is pursued, while each one only tends to make matters worse, and the question of civilizing the Indian tribes more complicated. The military power is in constant requisition to compel them to peace, or to punish some bloody deeds to which they have been goaded by real and fancied injuries upon the part of the whites. If the reports are true, the wrongs are oftener real than otherwise.

An immediate change in the plan of operations is absolutely necessary. To humanize and Christianize these savages by missionary influence, or by civil laws and regulations, is, under existing circumstances, absolutely impossible.

The only way out of this muddle is to make an entire transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department, and let the strong arm of the military compel the quiet, which, it is shown, cannot be obtained in any other way. Meanwhile, let the work already begun of educating at the East the brightest among the youths of the different tribes, proceed, that they may go back as leaven for the whole race. Learning the English language and living among those who speak it, they will acquire a love for law and order, which they will carry to their Western homes, and which will, in time, do more to civilize their people than all of the direct efforts of white ministers and civilians from now until the millenium shall become a thing of the remote past. Then, whenever it becomes evident that they are in a condition to control themselves without the intervention of the military, the Bureau can be again transferred to the Department of the Interior.

THE STAFF.

To say that it is necessary to maintain a large and expensive staff in idleness through the long years of peace, in order to secure great administrative efficiency in the time of war is to contradict the result of experience. This has been our policy ever since the beginning of our history, and it has never failed to bring about shameful disaster. The history of the General Staff at Washington is a history of criminal incompetence, written in the wasted blood of a million men. Among its incidents are sending of ST. CLAIR hundreds of miles into the wilderness, with cannon of one size and ammunition of another; and the beating of the Army of the Northwest in detail, in 1812, because it was not informed of the declaration of war as soon as the British were. All the many disasters of that least glorious of our wars can be directly traced to the blundering, lazy inefficiency of the Staff barnacles who had gravitated into position, in the long piece between 1783 and 1812. The utter incompetency of the staff at the beginning of the Rebellion is too notorious to need recapitulation. Thousands of Union soldiers were sent to premature graves simply because the staff at Washington had no conception of their or the Army's needs; or, if it had it was too lazily indifferent to do what was necessary to be done. The only thing that saved the army from this suffering and loss being immensely greater than it was, was the energetic manner in which the people took hold of the administration of the Army. There was no regiment that went to the field that did not contain in its members, as much business capacity as there was in the whole War Department, and much more disposition to make the best use of that capacity.

The Burnside bill seeks to obviate a recurrence of the disastrous experience of the past by making staff duty alternate with field duty. In this way the War Department will be saved from being merely a comfortable lounging place for a favored few. A man who has served his allotted term in the field will enter upon his season of staff duty with a fuller appreciation of the wants of the army in service than he could possibly gain in any other manner. He is likely during the period of his staff duty to be an active, zealous official, introducing such reforms as his experience may suggest, and leaving his department, when he returns to the field, in the position that will be best fitted to care for him and his comrades in camp.

This rotation in duty will fit a large number of officers for staff duty, so that when occasion requires we can have a trained staff large enough for any army that we can possibly raise.

CALEB CUSHING'S career is far from being a model one. It is as well that he should go into the grave with as few "tributes," "testimonials," "eulogies," etc., as possible. He is not likely to get many. He was a brilliant man but a more thoroughly supple time server never attained prominence in American politics. What inclinations towards convictions he had pointed toward slavery, secession and Bourbonism, but he never let these stand in the way of his seeking preferment and fat fees at the hand of the party in power. He had an Italian faculty of being all things to all men, and during his long life he was never known to make for others the slightest sacrifice of the interests, pleasures, or the comforts of CALEB CUSHING.

WILLIAM H. VANDERBILT swearing that he has no personal property, put alongside of TILDEN'S aggravated perjury in regard to his income, and the general belief of the wholesale false swearing at the Custom House, would make it appear that to be a rich man in New York is to be a very shady character in the conceptions of the morality of an oath.

HOW TO PREVENT CRIME.

Nothing has been made more evident than that the real strength of our country, its bone and sinew as we may term it, lies in the common people. Their honest purpose and good, sound common sense make themselves felt in every emergency. It was to the rank and file, made up largely of what might be called the better part of the working classes, the sturdy farmers, the industrious mechanics, and the intelligent boys just starting out in business, with no capital other than their own brains and strong hands to win their way, that we owe the successful ending of the civil war. No better soldiers can be found in the world than they and though rulers might err in judgment, and leaders make blunders, they were never found lacking. And it is to them always, to their good sense and integrity of character, that the Republic must look to carry it through, either by the ballot or sword, and struggles that may threaten its unity and permanency.

There is however, a class in all of our great cities, large now, and rapidly increasing, from which danger in the future may be apprehended unless something is done to check its growth. It is the crowd of reckless do nothings who fill our jails and penitentiaries with criminals, who, while they keep out of the clutches of the law, have as much power in the making of the laws as the purest, strongest, and best men in the community, and are ready the slightest pretext to collect in mobs whose animus is to do as much violence to life and property as lies within their power.

How this class shall be restrained from sins against law and order, and, where it is possible, compelled to become self supporting citizens is one of the most important problems of the day. It is not only so with regard to those who are experienced devotees of idleness and crime, but the masses of vagrant children that swarm in every street and alley of the poorer quarters, learning in their earliest years all forms of vice in which it is possible for human beings to indulge. The little that is now being done either by State or by private charities to check this evil is but a drop in the bucket of necessity.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." Without stopping to discuss the question of what shall be done with the adult paupers and tramps, it is evident that future good results can be obtained by taking care of these children in the present. Make education compulsory. Let every vagrant child upon the streets be at once arrested and permanently cared for at public expense, unless he has parents who can be compelled to maintain and educate him decently. Place him where he shall be obliged to both work and study, thus developing in him the idea that he can and must become a self-supporting, respectable member of society.

Objections are made to compulsory education upon the score of the expense it would entail upon the country. The same might be brought against all public works, and when the thousands of children who could thus be transformed in a few years into industrious producers of wealth, instead of remaining life-long consumers, the objections dwindle away into insignificance. It is also said that such a law would militate against the spirit of our Government. Upon the contrary, it is in consonance with it. It would simply prevent crime, instead of punishing it, and would secure the happiness and prosperity of these children, as a good father secures that of his offspring. The law would be paternal in its action, and that in a most wise and beneficent manner.

CAUSE OF THE ROW.

It is presumed that Gen. GRANT'S speech at the reunion of the Army of the Tennessee at Des Moines is what angered those "illigant jintlemen of Cork, begorrah." To show the baleful character of those remarks, and the deep and deadly affront it was to "every Corkonian," we will reproduce it entire:

"Let us begin by guarding against every enemy threatening the perpetuity of free republican institutions.

"The free school is the prompter of that intelligence which is to preserve us as a free Nation. If we are to have another contest in the near future of our National existence, I predict that the dividing line will not be Mason and Dixon's, but between patriotism and intelligence on the one side, and superstition, ambition, and ignorance on the other. Now, in this centennial year of our National existence, I believe it is a good time to begin the work of strengthening the foundation of the house commenced by our patriotic forefathers 100 years ago at Concord and Lexington. Let us all labor to add all needful guaranties for the more perfect security of free thought, free speech, and free press, pure morals, unfettered religious sentiments, and of equal rights and privileges to all men irrespective of nationality, color, or religion. Encourage free schools, and resolve that not one dollar of money appropriated for their support, no matter how raised, shall be appropriated to the support of any sectarian school. Resolve that neither the State nor Nation, or both combined, shall support institutions of learning other than those sufficient to afford every child growing up in the land the opportunity of a good common school education, unmixed with sectarian, pagan, or atheistic tenets. Leave the matter of religion to the family altar, the church and the private school supported entirely by private contributions. Keep the Church and State forever separate. With these safeguards, I believe the battles which erated the Army of the Tennessee will not have been fought in vain."

If this has fired the Corkonian heart it will stand a pretty good chance of being kept in a constant state of conflagration, as that speech represents with entire correctness the sentiments of the great mass of intelligent Americans, regardless of party.

A LETTER from Cape Town, taken from the wreck of the "European," off Ushant, upon being examined was found to contain several large packets of diamonds, the address of which had been lost off, and about seven pounds weight of loose diamonds. "Owners for most of them were found after a little delay." If inquiry had been made at the BLADE office there need not have been the least delay in this matter. We know of several persons who would have been willing to own those diamonds off-hand.

A MR. GARY, of Boston, claims to have discovered a magnetic motor which solves the question of a cheap production of electric light. Mr. EDISON found it necessary to use an engine of 80 horse power to complete his experiments upon a large scale. This renders it evident that generating machines of immense power would need to be used to light a large city. Mr. GARY'S discovery, it is claimed, will obviate this heavy expense. If this is true, it makes the near use of the electric light a certainty.

LINE AND STAFF.

The staff officers of the Army find their fleece-lined berths at Washington threatened by the new Army bill, and they are out in a ponderous pamphlet against that portion of the bill which applies to them. Among other arguments which they cite in favor of the present system is the following quotation from Sir ARCHIBALD ALLISON:

"It is not too much to say that an army sent into the field without efficient and thoroughly organized and long previously trained staff and supply departments is an army foredoomed for dogs and vultures, and that no expenditure at the moment, however lavish, can supply these wants or avert this doom. Our army which embarked (for the Crimea) in 1854, was the finest the country ever produced, but it was bound together by a rope of sand and it melted away like snow before the first touch of the hardships and inclemencies of Winter, and this was the direct, necessary and inevitable consequence of the ignorant economy of the Parliament of Great Britain in not sustaining in time of peace proper staff and supply departments. The green mounds in the quiet graveyards hard by Sabastopol, where this same system (the defective staff and supply organizations) has laid in their still abode an army, rank and file, attest this. Our peace staff and supply departments should, therefore, be so organized that they could instantly furnish the number of fully trained officers required in their respective branches for our army upon a war footing.

So far from this being an argument in favor of our present staff system, it is the strongest that can be urged against it. The British staff is as much like ours as the model is to the thing produced in imitation of it. It is the same cunningly devised plan for securing the best pay, the snuggest quarters, the best social position with the least annoyance and work, for the favored pets of the headquarters ring. There is no man in the service of the United States who does as little for the money he receives as a staff officer at Washington. There is no one who has so pleasant, easy, lazy a time, sauntering through a mere formality of office work, and dawdling through a routine of social festivities, as an *attache* of the War Department.

The crowd of inefficient, lazy, society idlers, misnamed "a staff," which froze and starved a splendid British army into desolate graves on the Crimean hills in 1853-4-5, is precisely such a crowd as starved and froze the Union army in 1861-2-3-4. That its work was not as perfect as that of its British model was because of the superior capacity of the American soldier to take care of himself. The crowd of incompetents at Washington in 1861, the barnacles who had grown into and fastened themselves upon the War Department during the long years of peace, were among the strongest obstacles which our armies had to encounter. Indescribably lazy, incapable of extra exertion though the fate of the country was involved, and bitterly hostile to every improvement or innovation, their *vis inertia* retarded the progress of the war more than a Rebel army. While every body else felt called upon to make sacrifices, it is very doubtful if there is an instance of where, during the first years of the war, a War Department *attache* found a crisis of the country so great as to make him forego his usual luncheon, in order to do a little extra work that was imperatively demanded by the needs of the Army.

Later, when Sec. STANTON came in he displaced many of the old dawdlers, introduced new blood, and woke up every body to a new sense of their responsibilities. This is not to the credit of the staff system, however, but to the marvelous energy of one man.

SOUTHERN papers have delighted in pointing out that Nebraska, where two farmers were recently roasted to death, is a radical Republican State. Certainly it is, and for that reason we are able to announce, within a few weeks after the outrage, that all concerned in it have been captured, are now in jail, will be given a careful trial, and those found guilty hanged with such judicial solemnity as will be exceedingly discouraging to such gentlemen as may in the future have an inclination to roast their neighbors. There is much more excuse for any friction or inefficiency in the operation of legal machinery on the western frontiers of Nebraska than there can be in any State in the South. The country is new, very sparsely settled, and with a large element of refugee criminals, it would not be surprising if many scoundrels went scot-free. But in the present instance the Governor and other officials made more effort than has been made for a similar purpose in the South since the war, and gratifying success is the result. The Governor of Kentucky could stop the lawlessness in that State in a month the Governor of Louisana or of South Carolina could in four weeks make bull dozing as much out of style as Know-Nothingism, if he, or they, would work as energetically as did the Republican officials of "radical" Nebraska.

AT the Woman's Suffrage Convention in Washington can be seen a Mrs. WILLIAMS, who attracts considerable attention, for two reasons. One is that she is a daughter of BRIGHAM YOUNG, and the other that she has come to Washington to defend the Mormon Creed, in regard to polygamy. Whether this is undertaken out of regard to her father's memory, or that she really believes it to be a God given law, it is impossible to tell.

THE difference in time between the East and West boundaries of the great German Empire is 67 minutes. In order to have a uniformity, Berlin time is to be made the standard throughout the country, in fact is to be the only one in use henceforward. This will simplify such matters as train running, etc., very largely, and is an excellent thing. A similar step has lately been taken in Sweden.

MAYOR COOPER of New York, follows the usual custom of incoming officials and recommends sweeping business and political reforms. We will have a better idea of his earnestness in these matters by the end of his term.

WE take pleasure in calling attention to the semi-annual statement of the reliable old Travellers' Life and Accident Insurance Company of Hartford, published elsewhere, this week. During the year just gone the Travellers' has made $281,500 in assets, and $46,700 in surplus. Its accident department also shows a large increase. The resources of the Company are all clean and reliable, there is no overdue interest, and in its assets there are no doubtful items. No company in the United States makes a better showing, and we are sure that there are none that are better, more prudently and economically managed. It has never failed to pay a loss, and has enough in reserve to bid defiance to either epidemics or disasters. The Travellers' takes higher rank this year than ever.

LATE LITERATURE.

Peeps Between the Covers of Some Remarkable Books.

IN FOREIGN LANDS, from original notes; by Daniel F. Beatty. Published by the author, Washington, N. J.

The name of Daniel F. Beatty is one not unknown to musical fame. Like other driving Americans, Mr. Beatty has long cherished a secret desire to gaze upon the ruins of the effete despotisms of the old world, and last Summer this wish was gratified. The little volume before us it need hardly be added, is the result of this journey. Mr. Beatty is no hackneyed traveler but views everything with all the vivid and acute sensations which accompany first experiences, and accordingly we find his book utterly free from that *blase* air, or that suggestion of *dolce far niente* which so often pervades the writings of the old *emnuied* tourist. He carries the reader with him in all his journeyings, and makes him see what he has seen, feel, what he has felt, and even shares with him his thrilling experience in being captured and robbed on the sides of Mt. Vesuvius by a band of bold Italian brigands. Of all his wanderings through Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland and the rest, space forbids us to speak. We cannot even dwell, much as we should like to do so, upon the part he took in the Grand Exposition in Paris, or speak of his interesting interviews with the advertising agencies in London. Suffice it to say that having braved all the perils of field and flood, he has once more set his foot upon his native heath, and proposes to continue more energetically than ever before the same business at the old stand. Success to him.

AS IT MAY HAPPEN, a Story of American Life and Character by Trebor. Porter & Coates Philadelphia.

There has been a good deal said during the last few years, about the "Great American Novel." Critics and readers have been looking for some fiction that should fix upon its pages photographs gathered from the varied scenes of life, at once so clearly outlined and true to human nature that they shall force a recognition of their faithfulness from every one who looks upon them. The publishers of "As It May Happen" intimate that possibly this book may fulfill the requirements of the case and give us the "Great American Novel." It is too early in the career of the book to say whether this is to be the case. But it is not much to say that it certainly possesses elements which will make it a novel of decided attraction to the reader of fiction. It is highly dramatic, has a plot full of action, and replete with incident. The characters are boldly drawn, and though some of them seem rather improbable, it cannot be said that any of them are impossible creations. The scene is laid in the interior of Pennsylvania and in Philadelphia, and thus the author deals in succession with the phases of country and city life. While the story has no formal moral, the movement of events follows the course which always finds approval in the human heart, and Virtue is rewarded and Vice punished at the close of the book, as it is always supposed to be in properly regulated novels. The only special criticism that we have to offer is that the movement in the latter part of the story is almost too much hurried and crowded with events to allow the requisite closing up of the story, while the introduction of new characters near the end cumbers the author with an added weight. It is evident that a good portion of the author's training has been received through the medium of the stage.

LAWS OF BUSINESS, for all the States of the Union, by Theophilus Parsons, L. L. D. The National Publishing Co., Cincinnati, O., Memphis, Tenn., and Atlanta, Ga.

"The Laws of Business" is essentially a law book for lay readers. The author is widely and favorably known as Professor of Law in Harvard University, as through his treatises on the "Law of Contracts," the "Law of Partnership," "Rights of a Citizen of the United States," etc., and his books are every where received as standard authority. Although the work in question is nominally a subscription book, it differs from all others ever sold by subscription, from the fact that it is so essential to all classes in every sphere in life. No intelligent person can fail to find in it information of practical and almost daily use; for every one, as a member of society, has social, civil and business rights and duties, and these are the subjects of which this book treats. To enable every man to understand his rights and obligations, and guard him from mistakes and errors, to save him often from the loss and inconvenience of delay and trouble and expense of counsel,—is the peculiar province of this work. The information it contains is adapted to every one, and has hitherto been found scattered through voluminous treatises in professional hands. It embodies and presents in the clearest, plainest and most precise manner, all those rules and principles which regulate and govern every kind of business, with full directions for every transaction. It explains the nature of every kind of contract, conveyance and legal obligation. It shows how to draw and perfect any agreement, to make a deed, a mortgage, an assignment, a lease, a bill of sale, a warranty, a release, a note, a check, an order, a bill of exchange, a due bill, an endorsement, a protest, an indenture, a guarantee, a petition, an affidavit, a will, a codicil, power of attorney, patent forms, and every kind of legal instrument.

These forms have been prepared for an extensive collection made by the author from those most approved in all parts of the country, and which have been tested in courts of law, and are so numerous as to meet almost every case that can arise. Prof. Parsons has received a great many very flattering testimonials from judges and eminent members of the bar, all of whom commend the book warmly as a guide to the non-professional reader.

THE Moffitt bell-punch is very far from a failure—as has been alleged. It increased the revenue of Virginia last year over $110,000. If this can be done the first year of its operation, and with a people as little skilled in administrative economy as the Virginians, it can be regarded as a demonstrated success. It could be made to bring in at least half of $110,000 in this City,—say enough to support our Police and Fire Departments, and that, too, without oppressing any body. Let us try it!

THE Democrats of Hartford tried the onion-skin fraud, but Connecticut does not happen to be South Carolina. The two States are not on the same isothermal line in political morals, and the fellows who tried to steal an office were bounced unceremoniously by the overly

For the Blade.

ANDERSONVILLE

A STORY OF SOUTHERN PRISONS.

The Life of a Prisoner of War in Richmond, Andersonville, Millen, Savannah, Charleston and Florence.

BY A PRIVATE SOLDIER.

[Copyright secured, 1878.]

CHAPTER XVI.

"CAPTAIN HENRI WIRZ."

The emptying of the prisons at Danville and Richmond into Andersonville went on slowly during the month of March. They came in by train loads of from 500 to 800 at intervals of two or three days. By the end of the month there were about 5,000 in the stockade. There was a fair amount of space for this number, and as yet we suffered no inconvenience from our crowding, though most persons would fancy that 13 acres of ground was a rather limited area for 5,000 men to live, move and have their being upon. Yet a few weeks later we were to see seven times that many packed into that space.

One morning a new Rebel officer came in to superintend calling the roll. He was an undersized, fidgety man, with an insignificant face, and a mouth that protruded like a rabbit's. His bright little eyes, like those of a squirrel or a rat, assisted in giving his countenance a look of kinship to the family of rodent animals—a genus which lives by stealth and cunning, subsisting on that which it can steal away from stronger and braver creatures. He was dressed in a pair of gray trousers, with the other part of his body covered with a calico garment, like that which small boys used to wear, called "waists." This was fastened to the pantaloons by buttons, precisely as was the custom with the garments of boys struggling with the orthography of words in two syllables. Upon his head was perched a little gray cap. Sticking in his belt, and fastened to his wrist by a strap two or three feet long, was one of those formidable looking, but harmless English revolvers, that have 10 barrels around the edge of the cylinder, and fire a musket bullet from the center. The wearer of this composite costume, and bearer of this amateur arsenal stepped nervously about and sputtered volubly in very broken English. He said to Wry-Necked Smith:

"Py Gott; you don't vatch dem dam Yankees close enough! Dey are schlippin' round, und peatin' you efery dimes."

This was Captain Henri Wirz, the new commandant of the interior of the prison. There has been a great deal of misapprehension of the character of WIRZ. He is usually regarded as a villain of large mental caliber, and with a genius for cruelty. He was nothing of the kind. He was simply contemptible, from whatever point of view he was studied. Gnat brained, cowardly, and feeble natured, he had not a quality that commanded respect from any one who knew him. His cruelty did not seem designed, so much as the ebullitions of a peevish, snarling little temper, united to a mind incapable of conceiving the results of his acts, or understanding the pain he was inflicting.

I never heard anything of his profession or vocation before entering the army. I always believed, however, that he had been a cheap clerk in a small dry goods store, a third or fourth rate book keeper, or something similar. Imagine, if you please, one such, who never had brains or self-command sufficient to control himself, placed in command of 35,000 men. Being a fool he could not help being an infliction to them, even with the best of intentions, and WIRZ was not troubled with good intentions.

I mention the probability of his having been a dry-goods clerk or book-keeper, not with any disrespect to two honorable vocations, but because WIRZ had had some training as an accountant, and this was what gave him the place over us. Rebels, as a rule, are astonishingly ignorant of arithmetic and accounting generally. They are good shots, fine horsemen, ready speakers and ardent politicians, but, like all non-commercial people, they flounder hopelessly in what people of this section would consider simple mathematical processes. One of our constant amusements was in belogging and beating those charged with calling rolls and issuing rations. It was not at all difficult at times to make 100 men count as 110, and so on.

WIRZ *could* count beyond 100, and this determined his selection for the place. His first move was a stupid change. We had been grouped in the "squads" of 20, and three of these—270 men—into a "detachment." The detachments were numbered in order from the North Gate, and the squads were numbered "1, 2, 3." On the rolls this was stated after the man's name. For instance, a chum of mine, and in the same squad with me, was Charles L. Soule, of the Third Michigan Infantry. His name appeared on the rolls:

"Charles L. Soule, private, Co. E, 3d Mich. I., 1, 2."

That is, he belonged to the second squad of the first detachment.

Where WIRZ got his preposterous idea of organization from has always been a mystery to me. It was awkward in every way—drawing rations, counting, dividing into messes, etc.

WIRZ was not long in giving us a taste of his quality. The next morning after his first appearance he came in when roll-call was sounded, and ordered all the squads and detachments to form, and remain standing in ranks until all were counted. Any soldier will say that there is no duty more annoying and difficult than standing still in ranks for any considerable length of time, especially when there is nothing to do or to engage the attention. It took WIRZ between two and three hours to count the whole camp, and by that time we of the first detachments were almost all out of ranks. Thereupon WIRZ announced that no rations would be issued to the camp that day. The orders to stand in ranks were repeated the next morning, with a warning that a failure to obey would be punished as that of the previous day had been. Though we were so hungry, that, to use the words of a 35th Pennsylvanian standing next to me—his "big intestines were eating his little ones up," it was impossible to keep the rank formation during the long hours. One man after another struggled away, and again we lost our rations. That afternoon we became desperate. Plots were considered, so dare to force the gates or scale the stockade. The men were crazy enough to attempt anything, rather than sit down and patiently starve. Many offered themselves as leaders in any attempt that it might be thought best to make. The hopelessness of any such venture was apparent, even to famished men, and the propositions went no farther than inflammatory talk.

The third morning the orders were again repeated. This time we succeeded in remaining in ranks in such a manner as to satisfy WIRZ, and we were given our rations for that day, but those of the other days were permanently withheld.

That afternoon WIRZ ventured into camp alone. He was assailed with a storm of curses and execrations, and a shower of clubs. He pulled out his revolver, as if to fire upon his assailants. A yell was raised to take his pistol away from him, and a crowd rushed forward to do this. Without waiting to fire a shot, he turned and ran to the gate for dear life. He did not come in again for along while without a retinue of guards.

CHAPTER XVII.

THOSE N'YARKERS.

One of the train-loads from Richmond was almost wholly made up of our acquaintances—the N'Yarkers. The number of these had swelled to 400 or 500—all leagued together in the fellowship of crime.

We did not manifest any keen desire for intimate social relations with them, and they did not seem to hunger for our society, so they moved across the creek to the unoccupied South Side, and established their camp there, at a considerable distance from us.

One afternoon a number of us went across to their camp, to witness a fight according to the rules of the P. R., which was to come off between two professional pugilists. These were a couple of bounty-jumpers who had some little reputation in New York sporting circles, under the names of the "Staley bridge Chicken" and the "Harlem Infant."

On the way from Richmond a cast-iron skillet, or spider, had been stolen by the crowd from the Rebels. It was a small affair, holding a half gallon and worth to day about 50 cents. In Andersonville its worth was literally above rubies. Two men belonging to different messes, each claimed the ownership of the utensil, on the ground of being most active in securing it. Their claims were strenuously supported by their respective messes, at the heads of which were the aforesaid Infant and Chicken. A great deal of strong talk, and several indecisive knock-downs resulted in an agreement to settle the matter by wager of battle between the Infant and Chicken.

When we arrived a 24-foot ring had been prepared by drawing a deep mark in the sand. In diagonally opposite corners of these the seconds were kneeling on one knee and supporting their principals on the other. By their sides they had little vessels of water, and bundles of rags to answer for sponges. Another corner was occupied by the umpire, a foul-mouthed, loud-tongued Tombs shyster, named Pete Bradley. A long bodied, short legged hoodlum, nick named "Heenan," armed with a club, acted as ring keeper, and "belted" back, remorselessly, any of the spectators who crowded over the line.

Every effort was made to have all things conform as nearly as possible to the recognized practices of the "London P. R."

At Bradley's call of "Time!" the principals would rise from their seconds' knees, advance briskly to the scratch across the center of the ring, and spar away sharply for a little time, until one got in a blow that sent the other to the ground, where he would lie until his seconds picked him up, carried him back, washed his face off, and gave him a drink. He then rested until the next call of time.

This sort of performance went on for an hour or more, with the knock downs and other casualties pretty evenly divided between the two. Then it became apparent that the Infant was getting more than he had storage room for. His interest in the skillet was evidently waning, the betting grew more upon the face during the early part of the engagement has disappeared long ago, as the successive "hot ones" which the Chicken had succeeded in planting upon his mouth, put it out of his power to "smile and smile," "e'en though he might still be a villain." He began coming up to the scratch as sluggishly as a hired man starting out for his day's work, and finally he did not come up at all. A bunch of blood soaked rags was tossed into the air from his corner, and Bradley declared the Chicken to be the victor, amid enthusiastic cheers from the crowd.

We voted the thing rather tame. In the whole hour and a half there was not so much savage fighting, not so much damage done, as a couple of earless, but nescientific men, who have no time to waste, will frequently crowd into an impromptu affair not exceeding five minutes in duration.

Our next vis

Correspondence.

HOME LETTER.

New Year Calls and Entertaining—Lucky Shoes—Mayor Ely's Suggestion—State Cookery—The Princess Louise on Economy.

Correspondence of the Toledo BLADE.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.

GOOD TIMES AGAIN.

The profusion of flowers and the fresh elegance of toilet shown by those receiving day before yesterday, were sure signs of the beginning of hopeful and prosperous times. The courageous choice of the country for honest payments and standards of intrinsic value, needs no further vindication than the encouraged faces and cheerful voices which wished each other Happy New Year with new terror. The banks took to paying out gold dollars magnificently weeks before the New Year, and resumption comes with a grace and with thanksgiving. People venture to plan and forecast in business, new enterprises are no longer dodged, and the golden dew begins to fertilize the plants of plenty. If times are still vigorous with Western folk, let them take courage for the tidal wave rolls from East to West, and though cattle are cheap and pork is down now, their good time is swiftly coming, and besides we were feeling the pinch bitterly here, two years before Western people thought of reducing their prices, or really knew what hard times meant. Now there is hope for all, with the priceless lessons of thrift the years of leanness have taught us. It will always be hard times for those who will not learn economy and diligence, but for the frugal and intelligent the new year opens on as good times as they or their children are likely to see.

NEW YEAR CALLS.

Perhaps finer flowers were never sent out than these seen New Year's Day not because they were spent for extravagantly, but more attention is paid to them by florists and people of taste. The stiff bouquet of pink tea rose, blue violets and scarlet and white carnations, which always looked as it put up for a Tammany hanger-on in dressed boots to send to a politician's wife in grass green silk with "diamond brass-pin" were no longer the staple of the florist's window. Instead there were baskets of silver filigree filled with deep Russian violets, and sweet white narcissus, forced for New Year, baskets of white lilacs, and duchesse roses, or carnations alone, the dark clove varieties preferred, mingled with buff, and *La Purite* with its faint and rare rose streaks. Primroses, stars of Bethlehem and lilies of the valley ringing bells, tuberoses deep in their sweet, hair fern, for me the bed for the favorite roses, Cornelia Cook and white nipheton, and the new, odd and ugly salmon peach tinted rose, which shades superbly with the deep red of Jacqueminot and Louis Philippe roses. Screens of stove heaths and Azalea fronted the windows, and the handsome tiled fireplaces with broad tops seat their glow out. A cover of cut house plants in ferneries and crystal mantel, while pot-holders, towel posts and hair pieces were pedestals for superb passion vines and orchids in pots. If any stranger wishes to gain an idea of the taste and luxury of New York, he should see its best houses as they receive th ir friends on New Year's day. Their comforts and conveniences are only equalled by the finest and newest houses in London, and many of the old mansions of nobility are commercialized by contortions beside the houses of New York people, who call invention and taste to the aid of moderate incomes.

NEW YEAR GIFTS.

The New Year bouquet is a compliment, when flowers come by favor, which will soon rank with Christmas holly and New Year calls as an accompaniment of the season. Christmas is the occasion for any amount of liberality, New Year has gifts especial to itself. Those which have come abroad have brought over the French custom of sending fancy boxes of bon-bons to friends, and extravagant things these boxes can be. Satin lined and gilded, after the confections are out they serve as glove or jewel cases, or the painter or Gipsy hat of fine Italian straw is turned into the daintiest workbasket. It is fashionable for friends to send a horse-shoe for luck the coming year, but the shoe is gilded and painted with flowers, and wreathed with ribbons through the nailholes, to hang it by, or rests on a long nail for a photograph frame on the table. Any lady might covet one of the fine racing shoes, worn by celebrated trotters in famous races, which one of the best known sporting editors on city papers hangs as charms over his office desk, and to which more than one fashionable woman has sighed in vain. The shoes are thin as knife-blades, and polished like silver, and I know one fair correspondent begged a pair for bracelets, mounted in diamond steel and gold, without success. Anyhow, a horse shoe would be a safe gift to make, for it conveys good feeling without pretence, and is followed by none of the mixed feelings which gifts sometimes arouse. Imagine the discomfiture of the person who receives a package of books from a publisher, not one of which he cares to read; or the lady who gets a dress from some blundering brother or uncle, a dress she cannot possibly wear, while she is all the time feeling the want of fur-lined slippers, or a new purse, in economical moods. For one, I had rather have a pin-cushion I wanted, than a brocade gown that wasn't exactly the right shade.

MAYOR ELY'S LAST PROPOSAL.

The outgoing Mayor of the city has left a pleasant impression by his last suggestion of importance, which is in keeping with the generous encouragement given through his official career to plans of practical benevolence. The idea proposed is akin to one mentioned in these letters last summer, and similar to that of the great French society suggested by Quatrelles to the Marechale MacMahon, which enlisted the interest of the Cabinet in France, the reformation society, which gathers all sorts of things no longer useful to their owners, old clothes, school books, old and damaged furniture, toys and household articles of all sorts, which are repaired and given or sold at slight cost. Our ex Mayor advises a general collection of clothing and useful articles like that made for the yellow fever relief, the new collection to go for the benefit of the city poor. A hard winter is coming upon us, and the suffering will be terrible, unless systematic relief is set on foot at once. What is wanted in this great and indispensible work is system, and without it lavish charity is but lighting the chimney with paper. Enough and far more than enough is given to the poor of New York every winter to keep every man, woman and child, who needs help, beyond the reach of want, to educate and comfortably provide for all the children, the aged and disabled, and yet the squalor and privation are sickening. An intelligent, thorough organization like the Sanitary Commission of which we are so proud and which did such great things in the war, is the only way to meet and grapple with this gigantic evil of want. A Charity Commission, of just such men and women, managed in just such military prompt style as the Sanitary, could, in a single Winter, banish poverty and misery from the streets of New York, and of every City that started such an organization. The work must be under the lead of responsible persons, holding such positions as would deter them from the shadow of inefficiency or double dealing. The yellow fever fund last summer managed by the Mayor, Postmaster James, and men of their character, engaged the pride, liberality and integrity of all connected with the work, and when they put their hands to the work of charity, we may expect the same results. Mayor Ely retires from office with cordial respect and regard, for he has shown his sympathies, his interest and efforts so heartily in behalf of plans of taste and of charity and improving the condition of all classes in the City, that he goes out of office, not merely leaving the last, vanishing impression of a political figurehead, the tool of stronger minds and more courageous knaves. All his influence leaned to a plan for sanitary and social reform, and a dinner party was as likely to be taken up with a lively discussion of practical charities as with his favorite talk of society and of books, for the Mayor is a reading man, and his studies have come near costing him his eyesight. There are always enough to worship the rising sun, who can furnish a new incumbent with virtues enough for our whole line of statesmen from Washington down. It is sometimes congenial to remember gratefully the tested, intelligent co operation with schemes of good and the encouragement of all that was liberal and wise, which are among the best records a man can leave behind him in office.

COOKING SCHOOLS

are becoming institutions of the country, for we hear of them in every city and almost every town of consequence. The New York Cooking School opens next week on Union Square, in the same building with one of the finest restaurants in the City—Marie it's—under Miss Corson's teaching and the management of a committee of ladies from among the best names in the City, such as those of Mrs. Robert L. Stuart, Mrs. David G. Farragut, Mrs. Marshall O Roberts, Mrs. Kate Yemans, wife of Prof. Youmans of the *Popular Science Monthly*, Mrs. William E. Dodge and others of the stamp. The most interesting feature for the Winter's course, not excepting the lessons in High Class cooking, will be the charity class of girls about 14 from the Aid Society schools, who learn cooking and neat serving on *onore*, and turn out most excellent and intelligent help, in spite of their youth. Last year's class learned to do the marketing carefully and economically, to cook and serve plain dinners in neat style, and most of them went into positions as cooks in families where they are held in high esteem. The old feeling of dislike to service or drudgery has given way to pride and satisfaction in their skilful work, a consummation, it is devoutly wished, may spread further.

Miss Corson has lately returned from giving a course of cooking lessons in Montreal, under the patronage and interest of the finest ladies of the capital. The Princess Louise signified to the committee in most emphatic terms her approval of such an interest in household economy, and avowed her intention of showing her high regard for the subject by personally attending at a lesson, adding that in her opinion no movement was more deserving of encouragement or was of more importance to women, and through them to the country, than that which led to more intelligent attention to domestic pursuits. Her Royal Highness is of a different opinion, it seems, from the correspondent of the BLADE a fortnight since, who spoke of housservice as a matter of "mere manual labor and manual strength."

SHIRLEY DARE.

LETTER FROM BUCKEYE.

Mr. Thurman and the Jacksonian Democracy.

Correspondence Toledo BLADE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 1879.

Mr. Thurman did not go to Ohio to help commemorate the 8th of January—the famous battle fought in front of New Orleans in 1815—but contented himself with sending a letter, which got into the papers here before it was fairly digested in Ohio. It is not a very startling document, being rather more remarkable for what it omits than for what it says. But Mr. Thurman found four things in the Jacksonian Democracy which he thought would be wholesome for the Democracy of the present day:

First—*They loved the Union.* That's so; and Mr. Thurman is undoubtedly right in bringing that point to the front. He probably remembers how the modern Democracy spit at the Union and declared they would have none of it; how they made war on it, and broke away from it, and with sword in hand, set up a Union of their own; how Gen. Grant leveled the new Union to places; and how coyly they came back to the altar for a re marriage. Nothing could be more appropriate, therefore, than Mr. Thurman's reminder. He cannot point too frequently or too emphatically to the early days of love and joy, before the Democracy took to rebellion and the cutting of throats. What they need is "line upon line and precept upon precept," and so far as this is concerned, Mr. Thurman thoroughly understands their case.

Second—*The Jackson Democracy loved the Constitution.* Right again. That was old Hickory's particular weakness. He threatened to hang John C. Calhoun for an offense very much less than that which was committed by the modern Democracy. Nobody, I think, can blame Mr. Thurman for holding up such an example of rectitude to his erring people. He remembers that they not only broke out into horrid rebellion against the Constitution, but that, since their return, with new pledges on their lips, they have set law and Constitution alike at defiance in their greed for power, and hold their present majority in Congress by means of the most shameful abuse of the Constitution. The example of Jackson, clearly, ought not to be lost on the Democracy of the present day.

Third—*The Jacksonian Democracy were the determined foes of monopoly.* Mr. Thurman urges this example with an evident consciousness of the power which it ought to exert; but with a feebleness of application for which the country was hardly prepared. He should have said to the Democrats of the present day, as Nathan said to David, "Thou art the man!" It was you that undertook to monopolize the Government, by driving voters to the woods; by frauds in stuffing ballot-boxes, by frauds in counting ballots; by whipping, burning and murdering Republicans. It was you that undertook to monopolize the Government by buying up elections and Returning Boards; and, like the corrupt Romans, proposed to give the Government to the man that had the most money. Mr. Thurman drew it very mild, but there are those who will see the point.

4. *The Jackson Democracy were strenuous advocates of economy.* Mr. Taurman, in tringing this point to the attention of his friends, carefully avoided touching them on the sore spot; but how would they look back on "the 15,000,000 that Gen. Jackson took for defraying the expenses of the general Government" without remembering their own profligacy and the great burden which they had rolled on the country. Ambition is not economy; rebellion is not economy; war is not economy. When the ambitious Cæsar went into Gaul he carried a private debt of 50,000,000, but the ambitious leaders of the modern Democracy rolled on the Nation, burdens to which that of Cæsar was but a drop in the bucket. There was years of waste and prodigacy and blood, putting all economy out of the question, and causing a taxation which has weighed down the whole people. And if Mr. Thurman did not press this point emphatically, it was doubtless from motives of delicacy.

But Mr. Thurman was sick, or was just recovering from sickness, and must be excused for not realizing the full force of the Jacksonian example. Had he been in good condition he would hardly have admitted some other features quite as important as those which attracted his attention. Let us see!

First—The Jacksonian Democracy were earnest advocates of equal rights. They were against slavery; any disturbance of the status of slavery; but outside of the peculiar institution they gloried in the fact that all men were equal and stood in the same relation to the laws; that Democracy stretched its protecting hand over the weak as well as the strong, and that every man was entitled to the full protection of his manhood, however poor, or lowly or ignorant. Had Mr. Thurman been well he would have remembered this important feature in the old Democracy, and would probably have gone on to reprove one of our Senators for winking at the gross wrongs inflicted on certain classes of citizens and for maintaining in his place, that "property and education" must rule, and not justice and law.

Second—Then the Jackson Democracy were great sticklers for the rights of the people and the will of the people. One of Jackson's favorite exclamations was: "show me what the people want and I shall know what to do!" If Mr. Thurman had not been sick and had remembered this emphatic feature of the old Democracy he might have improved the occasion to the very great advantage of his Democratic friends, since nothing delights our modern Democracy like overruling the will of the people. Sometimes it is done by tissue ballots, sometimes by the shotgun, sometimes by perversions of law. They glory in snubbing the people; because the masses are ignorant and have no right to have their own way and because "intelligence and education" ought to rule. Hence they pull doze in the elections; and, in the contest for seats before Congress, they hold the party to be above the rights of the people. In the Colorado contest what *the people wanted* was clear enough; but it was not half so clear as what the *party wanted.*

Third, The Jackson Democracy were the stanch friends of hard money. It is a little singular that, even with Mr. Thurman's sickness he should have overlooked a point so eminently characteristic as this. Gen. Jackson's right hand man in the Senate was Thomas H. Benton, who went by the popular name of Old Bullion, because he was so wedded to hard money. He and all the Jacksonian Democracy despised the "rag baby" and scoffed at paper money as a cunning device to "make the rich man richer and the poor man poorer." It is the more remarkable that Mr. Thurman should forget this element of the Jacksonian era because he himself was, at one time, a stalwart bullionist and sympathized to the "1 with the Jacksonian Democrac in in their love for the yellow and shining gold, so "tight to handle" and so "heavy to hold." But Mr. Thurman's admiration for the old Democracy has evidently cooled; and hence, the tameness of his letter. His carelessness in regard to the personal rights of the masses, his indifference to the popular will, his peculiar notions about education and property, and his dalliance with the "rag baby," divide him so effectually from the old Democracy, that his words are tame and commonplace. He is a man of large intelligence, a steady debater, a keen lawyer, a pliable politician and a serviceble partizan; but as a commentator on the Jacksonian Democracy, he can hardly be regarded as a great success.

BUCKEYE.

Mr. Beck's Attack on Secretary Sherman—Mormonism—"Death in the Pot"—Tobacco Tax—College of William and Mary—The Potter Committee and the Dispatches—The Teller Committee.

Correspondence of the Toledo BLADE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13, 1879.

Congress has put itself down to dull, dry, hard legislative business, and nothing has occurred during the week to make your readers very anxious for Washington news. Mr. Beck's attack on the Secretary of the Treasury kept the attention of a thin Senate for a season, but it hardly provokes a remark. His resolution, calling for an investigation, in order to ascertain whether Mr. Sherman was not taking undue liberties in the management of his Department, was adopted without hesitation—all the Republicans voting for it. Mr. Beck, among other things, told Mr. Sherman that he would soon have a new master, and then we should see whether he would trample on the laws with such gross impunity. The grievance of Mr. Beck is that the Secretary has not used his silver to pay the interest on the public debt. The buzzard dollar is coin, and the interest is to be paid in coin. According to Mr. Beck, he should have shoved out these unwelcome dollars and forced them on the public creditor. His wrath shows what the silver men are aiming at. What they desire to do is to *water the currency*—that is to say—to drive the gold element out of our money and replace it with the silver dollar, worth about 85cts. If, as what Mr. Beck says is true, and the country has really undergone all that it has suffered in order to get back to the gold standard, what kind of wisdom would it be, now that we have attained our object, to let go our hold and take up another standard, so greatly inferior? That kind of wisdom might be good for "Democratic principles," but it would be awful for the country.

The decision of the Supreme Court, affirming the constitutionality of the laws against polygamy strikes a hard blow at the Mormon polity and it clearly ought not to be used to the temporal disadvantage of that industrious and thriving people. The Mormons under their present rules seem to be pursuing their interests in a quiet and peaceful spirit and the indications are that if their passions are not stirred up by needless persecution, they will under the impending danger of these acts of Congress, slough off their odious institution; and that the "twin relic" will suffer the fate of its barbarous companion. I infer this, mainly, from the fact that the Mormon delegate here is pleading that the law may be so modified as not to cover past offenses, but made to apply only to future cases. This position is so different from the defiant attitude of the late High Priest, as to indicate that the Mormons are desirous to live in quiet with the rest of the civilized world; and if this is so the voice of the country will be in favor of giving them the opportunity.

The death of four members of the present Congress, since it came together in December, shows an unusual mortality and would seem to indicate a degree of unhealthiness which does not exist. Washington is a little more all cized with colds than usual but is not, otherwise, unhealthy.

The movement for a change in the tax on tobacco affects the revenue unfavorably, and there is a strong desire about the Government that it should be speedily disposed of. Commissioner Raum was before the Committee yesterday and made a strong argument against any change. The Committee, it is understood, will probably follow the Commissioner, and report adversely; but the friends of the reduction claim that they are able to carry it through the House. We shall soon see.

In regard to the dullness of the proceedings in Congress, I should have made an exception in favor of the lively discussion yesterday over the bill to appropriate $10,000 for the benefit of the College of William and Mary in Virginia. This is, in fact a bogus war claim, which has made its appearance regularly for some years. There is a pretense that the College was damaged by Union troops, and that this appropriation is to repair the damage. It was this aspect of the case that made it repulsive to the Republican members of the House. There were many Republicans who would have been glad to help education in Virginia, but they were not willing to do it under false pretenses. The college may have been used by Union soldiers, but it was chiefly used by Confederate soldiers; and as the object was to make it make whole this bill, it was attacked with cruel severity by Mr. Conger and others, and finally defeated. In the Committee of the Whole the College seemed to have the inside track, and it was ordered to be reported. But the vote in the House was unexpectedly strong against it, being 87 to 128.

The Potter Committee, have, at last, moved in relation to the cipher telegrams. This has been done without the help of the Republicans on the Committee, who took the ground that it was a matter which concerned the Democrats chiefly and who should therefore be allowed to have their own way about it. All the Democrats finally came to an agreement to ask the House for an additional appropriation to enable the Committee to go on, and the Chairman is instructed to that effect. Of course, there is no great enthusiasm in the Committee, but it now looks as if the investigation would be had. In the meantime the Teller Committee appear to have no difficulty in finding witnesses or facts, and a very black catalogue of crime is already registered against the Southern Democracy, who have made the South solid by means which would disgrace an age of barbarism. But more of this hereafter.

BUCKEYE.

His Former Address.

Springfield Republican.

A Milford man, stupefied by drink and the cold, was found near the Fair Haven Rolling Mill the other night and taken in and resuscitated amid the lurid glare of the molten iron and the din of the machinery. As he slowly came to and was asked where he belonged, he looked about him in a frightened manner and replied: "Well, when I was on earth I lived in Milford."

THE NEW ARMY BILL.

The Burnside Bill Can Not Pass—Representative Atkins' Substitute.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—It seems generally considered that the Burnside bill for the reorganization of the army can not pass. The bill, as a whole, will be vigorously opposed by some of the ablest members of both Houses, on the ground that it tends to subordinate the War Department, and even the President himself, to the General of the army, and to establish a sort of military autocracy, which is not in harmony either with the wishes of the people or the spirit of our institutions. Some of its leading opponents do not hesitate to say that the authority which it gives the General of the army is not only excessive but wholly unconstitutional.

Under the conviction that the bill, in its present shape, or in any shape which it is likely to assume, will fail to receive the approval of congress, Representative Atkins, with the counsel and suggestive co-operation of some of the ablest officers of the army, has prepared another as a substitute, which, although it has the same general object as the Burnside bill, differs considerably from the latter in its methods and details. Its principal provisions are as follows: The army is to be reduced to the desired strength, not by summary dismissals or enforced retirements, but by the slower operation of natural laws. Vacancies created by death casualties and resignations are to be left unfilled. Regiments are to be consolidated, as their effective strength decreases, and the whole army, line and staff alike, allowed to gradually shrink to the desired numerical limits. The retired list, instead of being restricted as now, to 400, is to be made as large as the necessities of the service may require, and all officers, without exception, are to be placed on that list as fast as they become incapacitated for active duty, or reach the age of 62. In the meantime, the supply of new officers from West Point is to be cut off. The bill provides that members of the next two classes graduating from that academy shall, if they so desire, receive $750 each upon the completion of their studies, and be permitted to return to their homes, subject to re-call at the expiration of two years, if their services are required. The provisions of the bill, with regard to the reduction of the number of regiments in the army, are similar to those of the Burnside bill. The Army, however, is placed under the supreme control of the Secretary of War, subject only to the higher authority of the President, as Commander-in-chief. The power of the General of the Army, instead of being increased by the Burnside bill, is limited to presiding over it. The bill provides for the adoption of the battalion system of regimental organization, and makes a change in the present rule of promotion, as regards first and second lieutenants. Lieutenants can now be advanced only in the regiments to which they are attached, while Captains and Majors can be promoted to higher ranks in other regiments, being subject to the same army service. Another difference the bill proposes to abolish by giving Lieutenants the same eligibility to promotion in other regiments, that the higher officers enjoy. The general features of the proposed reorganization of the staff departments are similar to those attached to the army appropriation bill by the House last session and subsequently abandoned. The interchangeability of line and staff officers, which is a most objectionable feature of the Barnside bill, is not included in this substitute. Other charges of greater or less importance are made in details of army organization, but the above are the salient features of the proposed law. It is now under consideration by the Sub committee on Army Appropriation bills, and it is believed that the latter will recommend to the full Committee the adoption of at least its more important provisions. It, however, it should not be incorporated in that bill, it will shortly be introduced, either by Atkins or Hewitt (N. Y.) on its own merits, as a substitute for the bill of Gens. Burnside and Banning.

THE POTTER COMMITTEE.

Consideration of St. Martin's Testimony.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11.—The Potter Committee to-day considered the question of whether the affidavit of St. Martin, a former deputy Sergeant-at-arms of the Committee, confessing that he had sworn falsely before the sub-Committee and casting imputations upon Representative Stenger, in that connection should be placed upon the record or the affiant be placed upon the stand. Mr McMahon favored the latter course. Reed, Cox, of Ohio, and Hiscock advocated placing the affidavit on record.

Mr. Stenger said it was natural that any body accused of crime should be confronted with the accuser, therefore, if the so-called affidavit was admitted to record, he should ask that certain papers in his possession showing under what circumstances the affidavit was procured, etc., should also be recorded. After further debate the resolution was offered, by Hiscock, that it was admitted by the witness that he had made the affidavit, and further inform Sec. Sherman that St. Martin will be examined touching the matters embraced in the affidavit, should Sherman, or any member of the Committee, so desire.

The Ft. Robinson Trouble.

FORT ROBINSON, Neb., Jan. 10.—The troops are still in pursuit of the escaped Indians. Thirty-seven, nearly all of whom are squaws and children, have either surrendered or been captured, and are under guard here. Thirty-four are still out, including about 15 warriors, among whom is Chief Dull Knife, erroneously reported dead last night. Wild Hog, Old Crow, Left Hand, med men, are among the recaptured. The dead bodies of the Indians brought into the Post for burial, number 32 warriors, eight squaws and two children. Five soldiers were wounded: two of them, Privates Smith and Everatts, have died. The others are not dangerously injured. Private Ferguson, who was stabbed by Wild Hog, will recover.

FORT ROBINSON, Neb., Jan. 12—The main body of the escaping Indians has been found and immediately surrounded, with the intention of getting them to surrender; but, the Indians stubbornly declining, the troops retained their position during the night. This afternoon a 12-pound Napoleon gun has left for the scene of action. It is now authentically stated that the number of Indians killed is 40; 25 were wounded and from 30 to 50 were captured. The following are the whites killed and wounded since the difficulty began:

Killed—Privates Good and Smith, A company, third cavalry. Private Reverett, H company, third cavalry.

Wounded—Corporal Pulver, A company, third cavalry, and Price Emery, C company, third cavalry, both of whom are in a fair way to recover.

Red Bear, one of the chiefs of Red Cloud's band, arrived to day from Pine Ridge Agency. Observing his sister, she being wounded, he shed tears and called her a bad squaw. A relative of Red Cloud was killed. Trouble is feared from the Spotted Tail and Red Cloud bands.

LATER.—Fifty Cheyenne savages are still at large, having escaped from their strongholds among the bluffs last night, where the troops had corralled them. The trail was followed this morning, going northwest. The advance guard of troops were fired upon by a party of savages at noon to-day, who were doubtless covering the retreat of the main band killing the corporal of Company A, Third Cavalry. The other members of the guard, seeing their leader falling dead from his horse, shot through the heart, charged on the Indians, who were concealed in a rifle pit near the top of a ridge. In the charge the guard killed one Indian and wounded another. The remaining Indians escaped through the heavy timber. At four, this evening, the troops had got up with the savages, who surprised the troops, firing a volley in their midst, wounding private Hunter, Company C, Third Cavalry, in the right shoulder. The savages were entrenched in the bed of a small stream. The troops kept up a continuous fire in the direction of where the Indians are supposed to be until dark, when the firing was discontinued until morning. Two more companies of the Third Cavalry, commanded by Major Vroom, left here at dark, this evening, for the scene of hostilities, carrying two 12-pound Napoleon guns with them.

The modern boy is too dainty for a snowball fight, besides the police don't like it.

"WEALTH, INTELLIGENCE, EDUCATION."

The Rule of the Shot Gun in Louisiana.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 10.—Ben. Williams and Wm. Harper, of Caddo, testified before the Teller Committee to-day, corroborating the testimony of other witnesses as to violence and intimidation in the Parish, and placing the polls at out of the way places without due notice, thus preventing colored men from voting; knew but two colored Democrats in the Parish.

A. H. Leonard testified as follows:—I was confined at Caddo Parish by quarantine, during the last campaign; prior to the election was told by prominent Democrats that they meant to carry the election; asked them how they would do it in view of the fact that the negro voters were greatly in the majority; the reply was that the negroes would vote the Democratic ticket; later, a fixed determination on the part of the Democrats to carry the election became evident; the determination finally was intensified into acts of intimidation; the Republican convention put a ticket into the field which was really unobjectionable, even to the Democrats; it was conceded, however, that this ticket would only receive the negro vote.

Mr. Leonard then gave an account of the meeting at Spring Ridge, where a joint discussion was agreed upon, but the Republican speakers were interrupted and insulted by Democrats with profane and abusive language, the general character of which is shown by the following. Leonard said: "While I was speaking, Mr. Jeff. Sullivan and a number of others arose and said my statements were 'damned lies.' Several parties advanced, while I kept silent. In a few moments order was restored and I finished. Mr. Hill followed me, Mr. Elsner (Republican) was the next speaker. He was interrupted frequently by such remarks as 'You are a radical scoundrel,' 'That's a lie,' etc. Mr. Crane (Democrat) then spoke. He was followed by Mr. Hooper (Republican), who had not spoken for three minutes when the whole house was in a tumult and there were cries of 'Kill the Radicals!' 'We have the leaders—shoot them!' I looked for an advance on Mr. Hooper, when, all at once, some 15 men began coming toward me. The leader appeared to be Jeff McMillan. He got to me first. McMillan began cursing, calling me a Radical thief, a coward and a scoundrel. This sort of thing lasted 10 minutes. I knew they wanted me to resent these insults, and then a row would take place and we would be killed, and nobody would know who did the deed, and I kept my mouth shut, as did all of my party. At this point a stranger to me, Chef Foster, came to McMillan and took him by the neck, and dragged him out of the house. This set opened a passage, and I joined Harper upon the platform. My party then walked out through the front door, and went to where our buggies were. Nobody followed us, and we left. On my arrival at Shreveport, I was told that the town was in a terrible state of excitement, and that we were to be killed if we held another meeting. I asked who said so, and was told that all the town repeated this statement."

H. C. Rogers, L. Templement, G. A. Simpson and J. H. Shepherd, of Caddo, were called by Democratic members of the Committee, and in substance, denied the statements of the previous witnesses as to intimidation by the Democrats. They asserted that, where there were any troubles, the negroes were the aggressors.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 13.—G. R. M. Newman (colored) Clerk of the District Court of St. Mary's Parish, testified before the Teller Committee concerning the frauds, and the ballot boxes, and the efforts made by Democrats to get possession; an attack was made upon his house at night, etc.—substantially confirming the newspaper reports published at the time of the occurrence.

W. R. McNeil, of Caddo, Deputy Sheriff, testified concerning the Caledonian affair, corroborating Norwood's testimony. When they started to Ream's house, and were fired upon, they were unarmed. Witness found a dozen stands of arms at Ream's house; published a statement to the effect that 20 negros in all were killed, but can't say when or where each negro was killed. Witness served in the federal army during the war.

Secretary of State Strong was called, and requested to furnish election statistics.

David Wise, of Tensas, testified that the election was peaceable and quiet; live within a quarter of a mile of Fairfax, but knew nothing until the affair was over; did not see the men; never heard the reason of this. My gin was burned by negros the Tuesday following; don't know the reason; never gave them any cause; saw armed colored men marching through Waterproof the day before my gin was burned, and, consequently, when it was burning, was afraid to go out to see about it; think the armed negros came from Catahoula Parish, some 200 of them; next day another crowd of negros, armed, came into Town, made a great deal of fuss, and cried that they were going to burn the Town; Fairfax was the leader of the negros; it was understood that he was keeping up the excitement, making speeches and advising the negros to preserve a bold front; I sold ammunition at my store, to any one who wanted it; the negros did not buy an unusual quantity at this time.

H. Moss, of Texas, testified: Gave negros assurance that the Waterproof people had nothing to do with the Fair Fax affair, that the interests of the negros and whites were common, that the whites would protect them in their rights, provided they acted as they should; saw negros pass by hundreds through the town; there may have been thousands of them; they were all armed; there dispersed when the Sheriff of St. Joseph arrived; they also heard that white men from Mississippi were coming; don't think there were over 20 white men in Waterproof. We were very much frightened; the negros threatened to kill the children and outrage the women; think they would have burned the town Tuesday if the Sheriff's posse had not arrived.

AFGHANISTAN.

The Troops Going into Winter Quarters.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 13.—The troops of the Peshawur and Kuram columns are settled down in quarters, which, unless unforseen events occur, they will occupy for the next two months. Gen. Browne's and Gen. Maude's divisions are echoloned in supporting detachments from Jellalabad to Nashara. This extension and the distribution of forces, besides protecting the entire line of road diminishes, as far as possible, the strain upon the commissary department.

Major Cavagnari has received friendly letters from most of the Cabul and Ghilzai Chiefs. An imposing durbar was held at Jellalabad on the 1st of January by Gen. Sir Samuel Browne. Most of the local Khans and influential men of the neighborhood attended. Major Cavagnari explained the Viceroy of India's proclamation, commented on the act and events leading up to it, manifesting the strength of the British Government, and the failure of the Ameer's resistance, and reported the assurance that we have no quarrel with the people of Afghanistan. The principal Khan expressed his contentment with the charge of authority, and freely offered his services. The health of the troops is good, and they are settling down comfortably in their different camps. With the wet weather, however, there will certainly come more sickness, but not sufficient to make serious inroads on the strength of the force. The most unhealthy positions are probably Ailmusjid and Dokka. Gen. Stewart's troops marched through Candahara and are encamped on Gnuznee Road. Supplies are being plentifully offered by the people, who showed a friendly spirit along the whole of Gen. Stewart's line of march. In fact, the population has been quiet. There has been no molestation of baggage, or attempts to interfere with the progress of the column.

They Could Not Have Done Better.

Cincinnati Commercial.

If Gen. Grant's excursion into Ireland was planned with the view of giving him an advertisement for the Presidency before he sails for the East, the disturbers of the peace at Cork have played their part to help him admirably. They could not have done better if they had been paid for it.

H. BALDWIN, of Monroe City, Ind., writes under date of December 3, 1877, that his wife used Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription with wonderful results. It flooded her entire cure, after several physicians had failed. The many similar letters positively affirming that the Favorite Prescription had cured the diseases and weaknesses peculiar to women, induced Dr. Pierce to sell it under a guarantee. Ladies need no longer submit to useless and painful local treatment, as the Favorite Prescription is a safe, sure, and speedy cure. Hundreds who had been bed-ridden for years have been restored to perfect health by its use.

A Brooklyn Ex Judge is Suddenly Enriched.

A well known ex Judge of Brooklyn bought a ticket in the recent drawing of the Louisiana State Lottery, and read the result as certified at

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 21, 1878.

The undersigned certifies that he hold for collection for account of Zacharian Voorbies, attorney and counsellor at law, 89 Broadway, Brooklyn, E. D. and 63 Bedford avenue, Brooklyn, E. D. whole ticket No. 75 201, Class M, in the Louisiana State Lottery, which draws the second capital prize of $50,000 on Tuesday, Dec. 10, 1878; said ticket having cost the sum of $10 at the office of H. L. Plum, 319 Broadway, New York and that the amount was promptly paid in full on presentation of the ticket at the office of the Company.

T. M. WESTCOAT,
Agent Southern Express Co., N. O., La.

Any further information given by M. A. Dauphin, P. O Box 692 New Orleans.

HEARING RESTORED.—Great invention by one who was deaf for 20 years Send stamp for particulars. JNO. GARMORE, Lock Box 905, Covington, Ky.

1879.

30th Semi-Annual

STATEMENT

OF THE

TRAVELERS.

Hartford, Conn., January 8, 1879.

ASSETS.

Real estate	$817,304 37
Cash on hand and in bank	121,404 67
Loans on bond and mortgage on real estate	2,238,193 13
Interest on loans, accrued but not due	58,173 36
Loans on collateral security	21,150 00
Deferred Life premiums	1,277,000 00
Premiums due and unreported on Life Policies	49,756 12
United States government bonds	431,425 00
State and municipal bonds	2,240,675 50
Railroad stocks and bonds	320,378 00
Bank and Insurance stocks	1,009,940 00
Total Assets	$8,595,445 31

LIABILITIES.

Reserve, four per cent. Life Department	$2,972,911 00
Reserve for re-Insurance Accident Department	231,336 31
Claims unadjusted and not due, and all other liabilities	144,890 00
Total liabilities	$3,338,337 93
Surplus as regards Policy holders	$1,257,107 38

Statistics for the Year 1878.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

Number of Life Policies written in 1878	1,269
Whole number Life Policies in force	10,707
Life Premiums received in 1878	$348,320 00
Total Claims paid in Life Department	$1,261,107 83

ACCIDENT DEPARTMENT.

Number of Accident Policies written in 1878	47,118
Cash Premiums received for same	$775,501 31
Gain in Premiums over 1877	89,587 69
Whole number Accident Policies written	517,995
Number Accident Claims paid in 1878	1,703
Amount Accident Claims paid in 1878	$284,351 00
Whole number Accident Claims paid	13,003
Whole amount Accident Claims paid	$1,041,901 94
Total Losses paid, both Departments	$4,303,009 80

JAS. G. BATTERSON, President.
G. F. DAVIS, Vice-President.
RODNEY DENNIS, Secretary.
JOHN E. MORRIS, Asst. Secretary.
GEORGE ELLIS, Actuary.
EDWARD V. PRESTON, Supt of Agencies.
G. F. LEWIS, M.D., Medical Examiner.
M. D. SPERRY, M.D., Surgeon and Adjuster.

ALEX. M. DEAN, STATE AGENT, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

HOMES FOR $2,

The Adjourned Sale of the following

GRAND PROPERTY

WILL BE HELD AT

Evansville, Ind., April 10th, 1879.

The net proceeds of these sales are set apart and appropriated by the Legislature to the Evansville Orphan Asylum and Indianapolis Orphan Asylum.

See these Grand Offers

Rose-hill Farm, divided into six farms:

No. 1, Premium Farm,	40 Acres,	Homestead Improvements	$15,000
No. 2,	"	"	1,000
No. 3,	"	160 Acres	15,000
No. 4,	"	160 Acres	10,000
No. 5,	"	10 Acres	15,000
No. 6,	"	80 Acres	15,000

1 Lot Woodruff Place, Indianapolis, $7,500 18s. $2,500
5 Lots, Highland Home, " 1,500 18s. 2,500
5 Lots, State Avenue, " 1,500 18s. 2,500
5 Lots, Irvington, " 1,000 18s. 2,000
3 Lots, Glendale, Evansville, " 750 18s. 1,500
10 Lots, Woodlawn, Evansville, " 500 18s. 3,000
21 Lots, Washington, Evansville, " 200 18s. 4,200

To the grand list are added $400 Cash Premiums, payable in gold, amounting to 800

Total Premiums $31,000

SHARES $2 EACH,

AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE.

I hereby certify that the deeds for all the property in this list have been placed in my hands to be held in trust for the parties legally entitled thereto, under the Orphans' Benefit Drawing.

CITIZENS' NAT. BANK, Evansville, Ind.
August 27, 1878.
Signed S. P. GILLETT, Cashier.

Remit by mail, money order, registered letter, bank draft, or express. For further particulars and orders for the full address

M. S. LYON, Secretary,
No. 80 First Str. ot, Evansville, Ind.
GEN. LEW. WALLACE, Indianapolis,
Penn'l. Journ'l Building, Indianapolis.

AN ORIGINAL NOVEL

"AS IT MAY HAPPEN."

A STORY OF

American Life and Character.

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The following are brief extracts from letters of Critics who have read advance copies of "As It May Happen."

Dr. R. Shelton Mackenzie says:

"It is a story truly original in design and successful in execution. The dialog

The Household.

Correspondents writing for this Department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write Household Department on the envelope.

2. Give real name and Post Office address—Nos for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail.

3. Write only on one side of the paper; write plainly as possible, and do not interline.

4. Be as brief as the nature of the subject will allow.

A Chat.

A chord was touched by one of our Household—I have forgotten the name and my papers are "borryed out," that has vibrated ever since. It was a reply to Barry, and doubting the propriety of girls corresponding unknown to their mothers. It is a doubtful pleasure, trust your mother if you trust no one else. She is not so old but what she can remember her girlish pleasures; but like the homeless author of "Home, Sweet Home," I am speaking of what is denied me. You who know not the feelings of love hunger, who are surrounded with home influences, mother, father, brother, sister love, what can you know of the utter loneliness of us cast out to battle alone with life's stern duties. When sad, discouraged, weary, and oh, so heartsick sometimes, we have no loving arms to close around us, no fond mother's breast upon which to pillow the aching head, no dear hand to smooth the rumpled hair, all the while whispering the words best suited to us, words that only a mother, full of the great, sweet mother love can say. O, you know not the value, the treasure of that love. Though all others turn against you, she will welcome you without reproach, without censure. Would to God some of us had mothers—many a thorn that pierces our weary feet, many an unkind word that stings nigh to death, would not have been added to our life lot, but that mother sleeps the sweet, long sleep, and we battle on alone. No, not alone, her spirit hovers near me and often does she come to me leaving me better for her angelic presence.

"Life hath many a tangled dressing,
Joy hath many a break of woe;
But the cheeks tear washed are whitest,
Kept in life are flowers of snow."

Sorrow does beautify us. It makes us truer and tender. It checks the wayward, impulsive nature, teaches us charity, makes us more loveable. How I rebelled when first the heavy hand of affliction was laid upon me. I even doubted God. But I had to learn the first lesson—a second was given me; still stubborn, I would not yield, the third came; I began to yield, and the bitter youth completely subdued my proud, self-willed nature, and brought me to my Father's feet a loving, trusting child. I needed it, and am thankful for it all. Come what may, I can trustingly lay my hand in His and follow so He but lead the way. That is worth more than treble the suffering. I would not give my firm trust for the wealth of the Indies.

I learned something quite new lately. It seems my inquiry, why people did not use more oatmeal, seemed vastly amusing to the editor of the Shamokin *Times*. He said if I'd write to the good-looking proprietor of the Shamokin flour mills I could have my conundrum answered. Now I know the girls will all appreciate my feelings of gratitude on being told that there was a good-looking man in Shamokin, especially as we always thought the editor of what the only one who had any claims to good looks. In return for his valuable information I would say if he'd eat oatmeal porrige perhaps he'd be able to distinguish between conundrum and a question—they say oatmeal is good for the brain.

If you dry the tops of celery and preserve them sir-tight, you will have a very nice seasoning for soup.

For those who complain of weakness, why not take iron rust, put it in wine, and take a spoonful three times a day. It is excellent.

For hands and face, make a thin oatmeal gruel, put in a tablespoonful of brandy, or three of vinegar, the juice of a lemon, if you have it, if not 'twill do without it—wash every evening, letting it dry on the face. Next morning wash with fine soap and rub with good cider vinegar. If you take a penknife or needle and loosen the flesh around the root of the finger nail, you will improve the shape of them, and prevent those ugly, and often painful strips of flesh that tear down from the nail.

Handsome ties can be made by fraying ribbon lengthwise, leaving two or three threads in the center. If the ribbon is soiled it won't show when frayed.

To mend goods that need not be washed, touch lightly with mucilage, clap the patch neatly on the wrong side, and you're hole's missing. This does for moth-eaten goods, or in odd places where they're not wanted in remodeling old clothes. To stiffen laces, put them through a weak solution of gum arabic. To raise pile on velvet, hold over a hot iron, on which a wet rag is laid; the steam does it.

A tiny bit of baking soda put in the cavity of a tooth will often stop the aching.

A bit of black pepper and a few drops of sweet oil, put on cotton and put in the ear, stop earache.

Well, well, my letters always spin out so long I almost hear the scissors. Au revoir. WOODMOSS.

Dewart, Pa.

Children's Diseases, Etc.

I was standing by the window this morning, watching the children as they crossed the river in a skiff, on their way to school, to see if the little fellows made the landing in safety. And I stood there long after they had passed out of sight, looking at the river at the mountains and thinking how much I would like to be able to describe the view that met my gaze, so that the members of the Household sitting by their stoves away over there, the other side of the Rocky Mountains, could see it all as it appeared to me. Across the river, immediately in front of the cabin, the hills are low and divided into separate points. Back of them, the high mountains are covered with living green. About 20 years or more ago, this part of the country was burned off for 15 miles along the river and extending one or two miles on either side. Fires are set out every Fall, and burn off the fern and underbrush, to make the ground clear for hunting deer. Sometimes the fires run so well and so far and so fast, that the settlers are kept busy for days protecting their property. The smoke of so much burning timber makes it disagreeable and difficult to breathe, but at night the sight is magnificent—so many fir trees full of resin, they snap and roar and send showers of sparks on all sides, and if there is wind the flying pieces are carried a long distance and catch on other dry trees, even going across the river and bearing much resemblance to some grand "fireworks" gotten up to do honor to some great occasion. To day (the 7th of November) the air is bright and warm as a day in June. The leaves on the trees are turning all sorts of colors, but most of them still cling to their branches. In the orchard, the apple trees are a bright yellow; the cherry trees are red, and some of the young peach trees are quite green yet; only the plum trees are bare. Across the river, the hillsides are as gay as a garden of flowers. The tall fern has turned a rich brown, forming a kind of groundwork, showing off to advantage the variagated colors of the foliage of different kinds of growth. The young firs are a beautiful green, and the vine maple dark red. The tree maple is a lighter red, and the alders a bright yellow.

Such a day and such surroundings almost make one wish that it might always be Autumn, and that we might stroll out along the banks of the river, forgetting all care, forgetting that there is such a thing as early breakfasts or hot dinners to cook, or that there is a large family to "take thought for, what they should eat or what they should drink, or wherewithal they should be clothed," or how they should be governed.

I have received many postals and letters from sisters wishing to "exchange," and have answered as far as possible. Have been busy for many days taking care of the sick. Three children came down with measles, one after another, and one with both measles and whooping cough—alone with them most of the time, 25 miles to a doctor or drug store; but that did not terrify me much. My medicine was obtained, principally, from a small stream of water that runs through my garden—applied warm as a foot bath, and *cool* as a sponge bath, twice a day, and a cold compress on the chest and throat, small doses of grated rhubarb and warm teas. They were all taken with very high fever, and quite seriously sick. The first case I supposed was typhoid fever for several hours, as I did not know the child had been exposed to the measles, and we do not know to this day how it came about. Well, "All's well that ends well," and I think this ends my experience with measles, being the seventh child of my own that I have successfully carried through all the ills that baby flesh is heir to.

This brings me to *How to govern children*. And as I have made that a particular study for more than 30 years (because I began the study before I was married) and read and reflected about it all my later years, I will sometime, perhaps, "give you, also, mine opinion," which partly, "my mother's way." I was early taught to repeat this old-fashioned couplet,

"Solomon speaks, his words are mild,
Spare the rod and spoil the child."

M. C. T.

All Sorts.

I wish "Bunny" would inform me as to her method of governing her children that she can compel "instant obedience" without scolding or punishing. I have a little girl 18 months old, and I would really like to know how to make her mind with once telling. I want to thank Rosella Rice for her pickle receipt, there is only one thing about them that I disagree with her, and, that they are *not* any too good to eat on the table every day, and *plenty good enough* for company, they are so nice and trist. We had canned corn for dinner, my, but it was good! I ought to have stated that I canned the "Mexican" sweet corn, it is the best sweet corn raised. What has become of Mr. Lathrop, Virginia Mine, Ouray, Colorado, I sent him some books nearly three months ago for silver ore, and have heard nothing from him. Has he got buried up in a snow bank, or don't he intend to send me any? I would like to hear from the lady in Texas, anywhere between Houston and Austin. I wish to thank the lady—I have forgotten her name—that gave me receipt for hard times, (I wonder if she uses it herself) that her receipt is very good, but it isn't of any use to me for, you see, I don't spend money foolishly or extravagantly. I think if she could see how we rip up old clothes and make new ones out of 'em, she would hardly accuse me of the above charges. Will Mrs. Eliza Gilbert Hurd give her way of making short-cake? I have seen a number of receipts but have never seen one yet where it told how to make the cake, and that is the most important part.

Why don't somebody give some receipts for different kinds of soup? I want to tell you how we clean lamp chimneys: first get a cork round and slick pointed at one end and about a foot long, now tie a piece of sponge on the pointed end, turn it round, wet it, and rub it on some soap, now wash your chimney. Now isn't it a great deal wiser than washing with a cloth. Vinegar and flour mixed and applied to a burn will relieve its pain in a very short time, and will not hurt any like so many of the fiery remedies used. Did you know that salt and whiskey will cure the worst earache? Fill a pint bottle half full with common table salt, and fill up with whiskey and it is ready for use, turn one half teaspoonful or more in the ear, and apply cotton to keep the air out, warm the mixture a little before using. All you who are making mince pies first put 1½ or 2 cups of pickled black berries in the mince-meat and you will find the flour greatly improved, of course the quantity of berries must be gauged by the amount of mince-meat you have.

FRIED APPLES.—Pare and slice in thick slices as many as your spider will hold; put a tablespoonful of butter, or pork frylings if you have no butter, in the spider; let it get hot; put in your apples; sprinkle sugar on them; put in a very little water, and cover tight; when tender, take off the cover and let the juice cook out and fry them a little, stirring as little as possible. They are delicious. I have cooked this way more than 50 times this Winter, and the dish is always empty before the meal is finished.

Is there anything that will cure scrofula after it has broken out in the form of an ulcer? There is a young man here in town who is terribly afflicted on his neck. LEONORA M. JEFFERY.

Martin, O.

"Rennie" on Begonias.

A very pretty plant, one to be found in almost every collection, however small, is the Begonias. There are three distinct species of this plant, the flowering, the ornamental leaved, and the bulbous rooted, and in each several varieties. Of late a number of requests have been received for specific names of Begonias by leaves sent to me by my correspondents for that purpose, but whenever possible send both leaf and flower, and always a description. Begonias requires a warmer temperature than geraniums or roses, and our living rooms, which in Winter are too warm for many plants, are none too warm for Begonias. A temperature of 70° is about right. They thrive best in two parts good garden soil, one part well decayed manure, one part sand. In potting them put in about two inches of charcoal for drainage, and fill up the pot to within an inch of the top, to allow watering.

Of the flowering varieties, the best with which I am acquainted are B. Weltoniensis, an excellent Summer and Winter bloomer, B. Alba, pure white flowers, and B. Glaucophylla, a drooping species with orange colored flowers; fine for baskets.

The ornamental leaved class are cultivated for the beauty of their foliage, and used only as pot plants or in Wardian cases, being too tender to bear our summer sun. The leaves are large, variegated and margined with a silvery and metallic gloss. Care must be taken to keep the foliage free from dust, as the leaves of this variety will not bear washing or showering, although they like an abundance of water at the roots. In this section are the famous Rex Begonia, and some others of most beautiful markings.

Within a few years a new section has come into deserved favor called Bulbons or Tuberous rooted Begonias, because they form Tubers which can be taken up in Autumn and stored like those of Dahlias or Gladiolus. The tubers do well if set in the open ground in May, but it is better to start indoors in pots.

Begonias are propagated from seeds (of which I can spare a few) cuttings and leaves. I take a leaf of the Rex variety and cut it in six or seven pieces, lay them on damp sand, where they can get a little sun, punch holes through the reins with a pen-knife, and thus they root.

The season for planting Lily of the Valley pips for Winter blooming having now arrived, I will give cultural directions: The botanic name of Lily of the Valley is *convallaria majalis*, and by the Germans it is called Maybloom. Almost every country has its May flower. We call the hawthorn flower by that name in Scotland, and I have heard the name applied to trailing arbutus or Hartford fern in the Eastern States. The pips should be planted two or three in a pot, watered and set away in the dark for a week or 10 days. Then bring to the light and in about four weeks they will bloom. Keep them in moss or sawdust until planted. They can be sent at any time during Winter, as they are hardy. RENNIE.

Box 191, Hillsdale, Dupage Co., Mich.

Caps and Mittens.

I have received so many orders for patterns, that I have been two days getting them ready, and there may be more orders at the office. My work is done gratis, willingly and cheerfully, but it does tire me so to be in the house so long, and it will so relieve me if you will please give the ladies my simple directions, which are as good as they could expect a young man to give.

Cap pattern—The pattern is for cap 6; other sizes must be governed by the persons head whom it is for. Before cutting the goods measure around the head; your 2½-inch strip must be longer or shorter, allowing for seam; sew the straight strip together, that does around the head. Cut two curved pieces like pattern, sew them together, now sew the two together, putting the seam of the straight strip in the center of one of the curved pieces, then the seams of the curved pieces will be on each side, and the seam in the straight piece behind, then sew in the crown. Cut the cloth for the (foreboard) or whatever you call it, just the size of pattern, and the leather the same, less the seam; on the margin that is to be sewed on the cap, paste the two wrong sides of the leather and cloth together. (I use patent leather.) Cambric should be used between the lining and outside to retain a nice shape. Have a piece of thin leather two inches wide to go around inside, then put on your binding around the bottom edge of your cap, leather and all. If cut true and put together right you will have a cap fit to wear anywhere. You will doubtless all understand the mitt pattern. I could tell you much better how to frame a house. JOHN S. SCHENCK,

Box 19, Holmdel, N. J.

P. S.—Will some of the ladies please tell me how to make nice syrup of white sugar?

A Bachelor's Defense.

I send a few lines written in defence of our Bachelor Brother, as I have heard nothing of him lately. I am afraid he has found the ladies of the Household too much for him.

True, as you say, I can hire a cook,
A woman to sew on buttons;
But a little thing you have overlooked—
The caper sauce for my muttons.

Whether I'm pure as you'd have me be,
Worth this wondrous love of woman,
All that I am I have offered thee,
Still I am dreadfully human.

I cannot pretend to be a King,
With a realm to lay at your feet;
My simple love on your shrine I fling,
For you then to say it is mete.

I thought I knew what I offered thee,
And what I could give in return;
A little thing, but it could not be,
A love you haughtily spurn.

You require far more than I can give,
In love, in wealth and station:
As a very Queen you wish to live,
To be honored by a nation.

One page, at least, of my life is filled,
With the saddest picture of pain:
A single breath, and my hope is stilled,
I may never venture again.

When the roses fade from that soft cheek,
In the chill of the winter time,
Should you then recall this wayward freak,
As you list to the wedding chime,

And sigh for the days so long gone by,
For the happy days of your youth;
O, may you never regret that I
Had the courage to speak the truth;

The courage to ask if you could cook,
Or if you could sew on a button;
And yet I am sorry that you mistook
My love for that of a glutton.

ANOTHER OLD BACH.

A Teacher's Letter.

We were much pleased in looking over the Household in the BLADE of November 21, to see that one of the members (Hoosier Girl) has so much sympathy for the old bachelors, because we are an old bachelor and a school teacher too, and shall look with interest for "Hoosier Girl's" next, as she agreed to give some of her experiences in the school room.

It is a source of gratification to those who have the welfare of their country at heart, to know there are ladies in the country who can write so able a letter as some of those that appear in the "Household," and it is a lamentable fact that we school teachers are as deficient in that respect as any other class of people on the globe. There is no reason why a teacher cannot become as good a writer as a lawyer or an editor. Horace Greely once said: "The only way to resume specie payment is to resume," and the only way to become a writer is to write.

It lies, largely in our power, brother and sister teachers to fill this vacancy in the accomplishments of the future pedagogue. It will be an arduous task at first but patience will make it easier in time. What is there in the routine of school room duties that does not require a vigilant exercise of this virtue. If we would require our pupils to write on given subjects from time to time they would soon become capable of expressing their ideas in a very creditable manner.

We meant to speak of some other subjects pertaining to the school room but have said to much already, and you, no doubt, have concluded ere this that we had better practice what we preach.

Nell says to "Hoosier Girl" however, that all old bachelors are not alike (although they agree on the matrimonial question,) and wish to thank her for speaking in their favor. BILL,

Mankato Minn.

Politeness Poetized.

Should you receive an introduction
To a stranger, ever so plain or neat,
While sitting, please, without hesitation,
Quickly and gently rise to your feet.

How cold and dishearted some people will act:
With never a shake of the hand; hardly a
nod of the head!
But will sit perfectly quiet, while one
Would think they were nearly—or quite
dead.

While others, how friendly and home-like
they are;
They will welcome you freely—give you the
best chair
The house then affords, and welcome you
back;
Which I call true friendship, which we never
should lack.

OLD MAID OF OMAHA.

A Reply to Shepherd Boy.

I feel in duty bound to say something for my sex, the effort of the Shepherd Boy being the cause thereof. Just imagine the girl he pictured! A Modoc princess or an Indian cigar sign is the only thing that would answer to his description. There isn't one girl in 50, now-a-days, that puts her hair up in papers, unless it's the front, and that will not in any way conflict with our pleasant dreams; and another thought—we do not try to ape the masculine style of dress. Why, the boy is awfully ignorant on the girl question and, it is evident, he is more accustomed to sheep and green pastures. There is no cure for him. Take your flock and go West, where girls are at a discount and don't know a cut-away jacket from a long-tailed coat, or whether it is the yellow fever or the ear-ache that has been afflicting the South. My word, she will not follow the fashion. Now go. We girls of the Household who bang our hair and wear coat-tail basques, will give you our "God speed."

I want to ask the lady who was scolding the waltzers, if people go to class meeting to discuss "the last hop." I think the people who had the hop much better than the people who gossip about it at a class meetings.

Now, girls, who have answered Barry Trevor. Don't all speak at once. Take the conceit out of him if you can. I know he would make a jolly correspondent, and would answer it myself were it not I had all now I could attend to now. "CLIPPER."

Michigan.

Honschold Recipes.

INDIAN PUDDING.—Two tea cups of corn meal, one tea cup of flour, one tea cup of suet chopped fine, one tea cup of molasses, made from a cup of sugar, some don't like sale molasses, one cup of sweet milk, two cups of raisins chopped fine, three tea spoons of baking powder. Steam three hours—its fit for an Editor—with a quick fire keep boiling water on the stove fill the kettle, up it will boil dry in a little while; to be eaten with warm sauce made as follows—one tea-cup sugar one half cup butter, put in a basin, pour on one pint boiling water, let come to a boil, stir up a little flour in water and thicken a little, let boil again and stir it well, season with lemon essence or vannilla. What's left from dinner to-day can be steamed over half dozen times and is better each time.—EVANGELINE, South Toledo, Ohio.

PIE CRUST.—Take in a pan just what flour you want to make into crust, put in a little salt and rub lard into it until almost as fine as flour alone. To tell when I have enough lard I press some of the flour in my hand, when if right, it will stay together; mix with just enough cold water to moisten well, so as to roll out nicely. I generally use a spoon as it should not be kneaded more than is really necessary.—MRS. W. W. ALLEN, Del Norte, Col.

Amongst the wants of the Household is one for making sugar-cured hams. We give a recipe we have used these eight years, with success. To one gallon of water take one and one-half pounds of salt, one-half pound sugar, one-half ounce saltpetre, one-half ounce of potash or soda. Boil together until the dirt from the sugar rises to the top and is skimmed off. Throw in a tub to cool—and when cold—pour over beef or pork to remain the usual time. If this recipe is properly tried it will never be abandoned.—L. COLOUN, Ill.

SODA ROLLS.—Strain one pint of fresh milk and let it stand until the cream rises, then, without removing the cream, make up a soft dough, adding a little salt; flour a narrow, deep vessel, put in the dough, grease the top a little to prevent a crust from forming, and let it stand over night. Just before baking put two teaspoonfuls of soda (it takes nearly twice the quantity of soda as in the ordinary way) with a handful of flour in the sifter, rub out into the tray, turn the dough into it and work thoroughly to prevent the soda from being in spots, make out your rolls and put them to bake, slowly at first. Good thick buttermilk, with the addition of a little lard, is almost, if not equally, as nice. Graham bread made in this way is delightful. If you fail try again. The secret lies in getting the exact amount of soda and kneading it sufficiently.—MRS. W. A. G.—Chilo, O.

TO MAKE BREAD.—Having never seen anything like my way of making bread, in the Household, I will try to benefit some young housekeeper by sending it. If I wish to make two loaves I use one pint of almost boiling water, seal all the flour it will take, then have ready one pint of cold water, the colder the better, add more flour, and salt to make a sponge, let it rise, and by bedtime it is ready to mix hard, but not too hard, but so you can dent it with your finger and have the indentions come right out, then put back in the dish and let it stand where it will rise over night, and before breakfast you can put it into your tins, and in summer it is all out of the way so early in the morning. I use about two-thirds of a coffee cup of yeast for two loaves.—A. D. H., Adrian, Mich.

Tomato Preserves.

Take nice ripe tomatoes,
Pour hot water o'er them;
Take a knife and peel them,
(But you needn't scrape them.)
Now be sure and weigh them,
Seven pounds will do,
With a pint of vinegar,
Three pounds of sugar, too;
Of cinnamon and cloves,
(You will want it ground),
And of each take half
One-sixteenth of a pound.
Tie spices in a cloth,
'Twill make them nicer looking;
And if you do not want
Your fruit to break while cooking,
Heat the syrup, and while boiling
On the fruit then pour;
Let stand over night,
Or for twelve hours or more.
Then put all together
O'er a fire not quick,
For you must cook it slowly,
Till the syrup's thick.
This excellent rule
I am inclined to tell
For the benefit
Of E. P. L.
And if for tomatoes
I have come too late,
You can use sweet apples,
And till next year wait.

AUNT NELL. Muscatine, Iowa.

TO COOK ONIONS.—Slice or not, just as you choose, place in a kettle or skillet, cover with water, boil until tender; partly remove the cover so the water may boil away, when nearly dry add vinegar, about half a gill to a quart of onions, a lump of butter rubbed with a teaspoon of flour to thicken the vinegar, pepper and salt; dish up at once so they will not turn dark. A porcelain kettle is best, though an iron kettle that is much used will do well. Heating an iron vesssel for some time will remove the smell of onions, being careful, of course, not to burn it.

I also send my way of making baked apple dumplings. Pare, cut in halves, remove the cores, place in a pan and stew gently, taking care not to break them. When tender cover with a cream crust, place in a quick oven, add a little sugar and butter. Serve with sweetened cream.

Sisters, please send more *plain* recipes for doing our work and cooking. Where are the farmers' wives? I want to hear from them.—ELOISE, Friend, Neb.

A GOOD CLEANSING FLUID.—The following is recommended for washing alpaca, camel's hair, and other woolen goods, and for removing marks made on furniture, carpets, rugs, etc.: Four ounces of ammonia, four ounces of white castile soap, two ounces of alcohol, two ounces of glycerine, two ounces of ether. Cut the soap fine, dissolve in one quart of water over the fire, add four quarts of water. When nearly cold add the other ingredients. This will make nearly eight quarts and will cost about twenty-five cents. It must be put in a bottle and stoppered tight. It will keep good any length of time. To wash dress goods take a pail of lukewarm water, and put in a teacupful of the fluid, shake around well in this, and then rinse in plenty of clear water, and iron on wrong side while damp. For washing grease from coat collars, etc., take a little of the fluid in a cup of water, apply with a clean rag, and wipe well with a second rag. It will make every woolen fabric look bright and fresh. I had one-fourth of this recipe put up for me by a druggist, and use it for sponging off my woolen clothing. It answers admirably.—AUNT SOPHY, Watertown, N. Y.

YELLOW ON COTTON.—To a tub of cold water sufficient to work ten pounds of cotton goods, put one pound acetate of lead and one pound nitrate of lead in solution, work the goods in this 15 minutes, and rinsing out—into another tub of cold water put six ounces of bichromate potash in solution, work the goods 15 minutes through this and wring out and then work ten minutes in the lead solution and then wash and dry.

TO COLOR GREEN.—First color blue and then color yellow, and you will have a beautiful green. I know these recipes to be excellent, for I have used them.

SKY BLUE COTTON.—For 10 pounds of goods, wet in clear water and wring out; then to a tub of cold water sufficiently to work the goods easily in, add half a pint of nitrate of iron, and work in this for 20 minutes; then wring out and pass through a tub of clean water; then into a tub of cold water; add four ounces of ferrocyanide of potassium in solution and a wine glass of sulphuric acid; then work the goods in this 15 minutes; wring out and wash through cold water in which is dissolved one ounce of alum; wring out and dry.—LEO, Fort Collins, Col.

COLORING BROWN WITH CUTCH.—To one pound of cutch use two pails of water and no more of the goods than can be wet in the same. Boil the Cutch 20 minutes, then disolve eight ounces of bichromate of potash in two pails of water. Dip the goods from the cutch into the potash and wash in suds. There is the receipe as it was given me. I have never tried it but the lady that gave it to me said that she had seen brown alpaca dresses colored by this recipe as nicely as if they had been done in a dying establishment. "I tell the tale as 'twas told me," I do not endorse the recipe, but the lady that gave it.—MYRRH.

Exchanges Wanted.

I have the following books to exchange for others of equal value. All of mine are in fair condition: Journey to the Center of the Earth, by Jules Verne; Spirit Rapping Unveiled, by Rev. H. Mattison; Footpaths on the Boundary of Another World, by T. L. D. Owen; The Young Prospector, by Professor Ames; Baker, by J. M. Sanderson; Army Regulations of U. S. A.; Ballou's Select Works, Vol. 9; Macaulay's Essays; Life of Leighton.—T. R. IMLAY, Freeport, Ill.

I would like some story books or histories or sea shells. I will give a pair of full blooded light brahma fowls, (from imported stock) valued at $5 per pair; would like their value in sea shells or will take good story books. I have some early amber sugar cane seed, very pure, would exchange for silk or worsted scraps for log cabin quilt.—M. E. HADLEY, Greenfield, Adair Co., Iowa.

I would like some pieces of choice literature, suitable for reading in a temperance meeting. It does not make any difference which it is, prose or poetry. In exchange, I will send a pattern and directions for making a catch all. The prettiest that I have seen are made out of perforated cardboard.—MISS MARTHA J. HILL, Sparland, Marshall Co., Ill.

To any one sending me two ounces (apothecary's weight) of ladies' hair combings or cut hair, or two ounces of second-hand ribbon, silks, valine or turquoise, or two ounces of the wing or tail feathers of any wild bird that is bright colored or black, or a little of each kind of the above articles, making two ounces, each kind packed carefully so as not to soil or rumle the other, I will give in exchange a book telling very plainly how to make wax flowers, pond lilies, wax mottoes, and how to arrange them for framing in different ways: wax fruits and vegetables, feathers, flowers and plumes for ladies wear; crystalizing, taxidermy, ladies' hair work, such as switches, curls flowers and hair jewelry. Each one paying her own postage and answering letters cheerfully.—MRS. SARAH J. W. AXTELL, Rosseville, Warren Co!, Ill.

I wish to exchange the Spectator containing 919 pages, very handsomely bound, just new, has never been soiled, a very nice book for parlor table; also, Spalding's English literature, 412 pages; it has never been soiled. will exchange for gentlemen's book of etiquette, travel, poetry or rhetoric.—T. MORE, Burton, Penn.

Can any of the "exchange friends" furnish me with clippings from any temperance papers? I want them to use as select reading in our temperance meetings. I will pay postage.—BELL EDWARDS, Willshire, O.

I wish to know if some one will make me a wax wreath in exchange for the latest sheet music, vocal or instrumental; will send list of what I have to any one wishing it.—MRS. E. L., 382, Michigan street, Toledo.

I think the printer must have had "sonthin on his mind" when he was setting up the exchanges for December 12, for things were badly mixed. In the place of my simple request to exchange National Monthlies, there was placed to my credit Floral Cabinets and music, etc., etc., and the letters and postals I have received about the articles in question are just astonishing. So please, Mr. Editor, correct the mistake, as soon as possible, and save my friends the trouble of hiring a dray to bring home the mail.—MRS. ELLA WALKER, Wallace, Ill.

I would like to exchange geological specimens from this region for specimens from any of the Southern, Eastern or Middle States. I have for exchange petrified moss, iron ore, flint, carnelians, and agates from our rivers; also, Potsdam sandstone, showing fossils of the trilobite and lingula.—GUS. LOUIS, Box 12, Louisville, Wis.

I have "Tom Summers in the Army," and the "Young Lieutenant;" would like to exchange for the "Adventures of an Army Officer," of the same series, and "Edna Browning," (Mrs. Holmes), or the two first books of "Jack Summers in the Navy." My books are worn, and the "Young Lieutenant" has the cover gone, but the reading is all there. I do not mind if the ones you send me are worn so the reading is all there. I will pay postage on the books I send and will expect those that send, to do the same.—Miss E. A. BROOKS, Crow River, Meeker Co., Minn.

Please allow me to say that those who have sent to me for catalpa seed, that I will fill every order as soon as my health will permit.—J. H. ABOTT, Georgetown, Ohio.

I have two years' numbers of the "Youth's Companion," and a book entitled "Odd People of Different Nations," by Mayne Reid, to exchange for "Arthur's Magazines" or any other good Magazines and fancy work patters. In my last letter to the BLADE there was a misprint in my address. It is Butte, not Butler Co. — IDA M. HORN, Pentz, Butte, Co., Cal.

I wish the words of the song, entitled "The Outcast," beginning:

In a quiet little valley,
Stands a lone though handsome cot.

I wish for it very much and cannot get it at the music stores. If anyone has it, please let me know, I am willing to pay for it, or exchange any songs any songs I have, or flower seeds, or hardy plants. I also wish the words to "Cast Away the Wine Cup."—MISS MATTIE E. GAUNTT, Hackleman, Grant Co., Ind.

The other night while watching our sick boy, and wondering what I should do on the morrow to interest and amuse him, like an inspiration the thought flashed through my mind to write to the "Household" for help. Though this is my first application I feel sure from the success others have had, that some one will respond to my request. Our eight-year old boy has been sick eight weeks suffering exceedingly a part of the time with inflammatory rheumatism and erysipelas. He is now some better, but has a bad sore on one ankle that is likely to keep him housed all Winter, if it does not make him a cripple for life. If any of the little folks of Tru BLADE have picture-books or toys they have outgrown or are tired of, please send them to Bertie P., Box 103, Springville, Lima Co., Ia., and you will make him very happy and also be helping his mamma who is willing to pay postage if desired.—BERTIE'S MAMMA.

I have a number of books and magazines to exchange for geological specimens from any of the Southern States. I will send any specimens please write me what you will take for them.—GEO. W. BULL, Balavia, Ill.

I have a copy of "Shirley," by Bronte, one of "Cooper's Virgil," and "Wood's Household Magazine" for 1871, bound in cloth and well preserved. I would send any one of the three, post paid, to any address in exchange for any of the books named below. Of course they must be well bound and not much soiled, as mine are good. They must be sent post paid to my address: "The Scarlet Letter," or "House of Seven Gables," by Hawthorne, "Kathrina," or "Bitter Sweet," Holland; "Jane Eyre," by Bronte; "Mill on the Floss," by Elliot; "Dombey & Son," or Barnaby Rudge," by Dickens. Letters or books to be sent to MINNIE LOVELL. Joy, Morgan County, O.

Being a sufferer from that dreadful disease, asthma, I am compelled to leave behind parents and a pleasant home, for an abode in the wilds of Idaho Territory. Here I have health though, and that is more to me, or anybody else who has suffered as I have, than all the world beside. I enjoy the weekly visits of my Household friends, and have no society in my mountain home, and I long for a more intimate acquaintance. I would be glad to exchange any curiosities of this region for anything useful or ornamental. I can send to any who wish, sand from our rivers, in which gold is visible, and which is worked over by Chinamen and others with profit. I particularly want reading matter, but any article that a young lady in my situation can use to advantage will be gladly received. My nearest postoffice is Uniontown, Whitman County, Washington Territory.—ALICE JANES.

I am piecing a charm quilt, and would like to exchange pieces with others that are piecing quilts. It will take about 1,000 pieces for mine.—A. L. B., Box 40, Inland, Cedar Co., Iowa.

Can any one furnish me with that old school book, "The Introduction to the English Reader?" I would give any second hand books that I might have, and that would be desired in return.—Address, OLD SCHOOL BOY, Fillmore, Ind.

I wish to thank the many friends for their kindness to me since my offer in the BLADE to exchange specimens. I have had a great call for them. It has been very interesting indeed. I have sent petrified grain, etc., to all that have sent specimens to me, and they have all dealt fairly with me. I wish to ask a favor: All sending packages please send postal card at the same time, stating what you send and what you wish in exchange. I received a package lately with no address and no postal card accompanying it. If the one that sent it will drop me a card with name and description of what she sent and what she wished in return, I will forward immediately. I still have petrified grain and other petrifactions and specimens any quantity.—MRS. MARTHA A. WETSEL, Harveyville, Kas.

I have the song "Era" McGuffey's Fifth reader and Ray's Practical Arithmetic, which I would like to exchange for other books. Will give all for a standard work on Mental Philosophy, on Dickens Old Curiosity Shop, or any of Cooper's works, Bayard Taylor's, or George P. Morris's poems. Would like also to exchange a dark brown switch (been worn) for mineral specimens. Will somebody who wrote me from Nevada City, Cal., about exchanging minerals for school journals please send me his address, his card in reaching me was soiled to that the name could not be read.—MATTIE SHAW, Titusville, Pa.

I would like to exchange two or three month's copies of the Youth's Companion for sea shells or fancy work, shells preferred.—JENNIE SHAW, Titusville, Pa.

I wish to thank all who have sent to my address, seeds, bulbs, slips, roots, patterns, etc. I now have a bountiful supply of perennial, biennial and annual flower seeds. I have received several packages without any signature, and the post mark was so dim I could not make it out, now to whom am I indebted? If there are any who have received no recompense for what they have sent me, I will consider it a favor if they will send a card to any address stating what they want.

Many thanks to Josie Mc., for the snow ball slip, also for directions for making hair switches and flowers. Thanks to those who have promised dahlias, also to those who have added to my list of quilt patterns. T. S. Bradney has some quilt patterns in her list I want. Will she exchange them for patterns different from hers? I have to exchange The Prince of the House of David, Sam Slick, Clara Dwight and Ehrich's Fashion Quarterly for 1877 and '78, (they contain all the latest styles of the season, much good information and solid reading matter, besides several stories, hence each number is complete in itself). My wants are a copy of Webster's Dictionary (in small form), any of Eggleston's, Arthur's, Mrs. Holmes' or Mrs. Evan's works. Any one wanting anything I have, send card stating what you have for exchange and what you want, or forward your books right on, and I will fill each order as it comes.—MRS. R. W. HAZELWOOD, Seward, Nebraska.

I have to exchange the following books; Whitney's German Reader, Whitney's German Grammar, German Course, by G. M. Comfort, German Testament, The American Hoyle, Robinson Cruso, Bride of Llewellyn—Mrs. Southey, Bingham's Latin Grammar, Harkness' Latin Grammar. Harkness' Latin Reader, Kit Karson's Life and Adventures, Harkness' Introductory Latin Book, Mrs. Southey's Poems, Life of Zachary Taylor, John Chinaman, by William Dalton. Would like in exchange books of equal value—History, Biography, Travels or works of fiction, by standard authors.—MRS. BART. MCINTOSH, West Lebanon, Ind.

So many people are talking of coming West, and want to see and get everything they can to learn of this region, I have concluded to exchange specimens of Kansas soils a number of kinds; also rocks, package No. 2, and woods package No. 3, for Shakespeare; any of the poets Uncle Tom's Cabin, Gibbons' Rome, Arabian Nights, etc., and a thousand we cannot think of. Any one wishing to exchange, send on a card what they want. Be sure and send address plain, U. S. PARSONS, Westmoreland, Pott Co., Kansas.

Our Young Folks.

THE BOY WHO FELL FLAT.

Which he was a small boy,
And he went out to sleigh
With a fiendish like joy,
All who came in his way;
On the street which inclined and was icy,
He coasted the whole of the day.

He had broken ten arms,
And of legs quite a score,
And, ablaze with these charms,
He kept asking for more;
And the heads he had cracked were past
counting,
The sidewalks were covered with gore.

But a terrible fate
Overtook this small boy,
Which with tears I relate—
Though the tears are of joy:
And I hope he went straight up to Heaven,
Or else—where no sled can annoy.

For he steered his sled straight
On a lat man, who dropped
With a run over his head
On this boy, who just popped
With a bang as he flattened completely
'Neath that mountain of flesh which was
stopped.

With a derrick they raised
That fat man on his feet,
While the people there gazed
At a thing on the street,
A jacket, a cap, and two mittens—
All flat as the pancake you eat.

Now, you Oil City boys,
Learn a lesson from one
Who thought avordupois
Was a subject for fun:
But, if you must sleigh, slay each other,
And may there be left of you—none.

—*Exchange.*

What Shall We Do With Her?

This is a sad, but short, tale about a cat, or perhaps about a rabbit that pretended to be a cat,—I do not know which. You will presently see why it must be short.

Some time ago a supposed friend sent me, as a present, what purported to be a Chinese cat. Thereby hangs a tale. Not a tail. The cat had a tail, and a tail. It was said by way of apology and explanation that all Chinese cats have no tails. If this is a fact of natural history, it is an absurd fact; for it is known that all Chinamen—even the smallest—have tails, which are called cues, and sometimes pig-tails, but never cat-tails. And it seemed improbable and heartless that a Chinaman would deny tails to his cats. However, I took the kitten in, and named her "China,"—a name to which she has never responded to this day.

And this shows the animal instinct; for when I came to look in the dictionary, I found that, in all probability, she was a Manx cat, from the Isle of Man—a small English island hardly room to turn around), where cats are obliged to do without tails. It is considered a very nice kind of a cat, if it is a cat, of which I have doubts. It is said that Turner, the great painter—who was probably as good a judge of cats as ever lived—kept seven Manx cats always in his house. Perhaps it was necessary to have seven Manx cats to get the equivalent of one real cat; in my experience it requires more.

As I said, I doubt if China is a cat, take her all together. She had, as a kitten, no tail. Her grown tail now is less than an inch long, and most of that is fur. It is exactly like a rabbit's tail, that is, a kind of place for a tail. When China first began to realize her existence she evidently thought she was a cat, and

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions, answers and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Contributions should be written legibly and on one side of the paper only and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany each letter.

Wheat Soils and Superphosphate.

BY F. F. ROOT.

Having received of late, from distant localities, several questioning letters relating to wheat culture, and the use of chemical fertilizers in connection with it, all referring to notes of my crops seen in the New York *Tribune*, I am induced to communicate some general ideas, based on an experience dating back to 1833, when at the age of 18, my business life began. The best wheat-growing lands of Western New York—and, it is believed, second to none in our country—are those lying on the lime and plaster rock. The surface soil, naturally quite so abundant as to be troublesome in cultivation, is also usually of lime. The gravel also intermixed with the soil is of lime, and the same character of soil and stone is found from the surface to the bed rock below. Lands of this character, it would seem, must be inexhaustible by cultivation, for the whole volume is alike below the surface mould. These lands have been under cultivation from 60 to 75 years, almost constantly under the plow, and are still producing good crops, and when well cultivated as good as when first brought into cultivation. In the early cultivation of these lands there seemed to be nothing lacking but vegetable matter to insure perfect crops, and to supply this clover was grown and plowed in, which never failed to supply all that the soil needed. Forty or fifty years these lands were cropped with Winter wheat incessantly, and lands seemed to rather increase than to diminish in productiveness. Forty bushels per acre were frequently harvested, and as high as 60 bushels per acre have been reported. The finest quality of white wheat was grown, when, about the year 1834 or 1835, the country was visited by an insect called the wheat midge, that seemed to destroy the prospects of wheat growing longer. For several years following none but the most hardy varieties of red wheat could be raised with any success, and that not without more or less injury. Other crops were gradually substituted for wheat, and a system of husbandry has to a large extent been followed since.

After a few years of but little attention to wheat, and growing none but the earliest and most hardy red wheat, the insect gradually disappeared and has not troubled since. After many years of wheat with the best success, and with no fertilizer used but clover, with plaster applied to promote growth, there seemed to be a decline in the yield of grain and often in quality, while the growth of straw was maintained or increased. This showed that some mineral element of the soil was being exhausted which was essential to the maturity of the perfect grain. The system of mixed husbandry pursued after the destruction of the wheat crop by the insect, which allowed a wheat crop to occur in four or five years, did not seem to restore the want of the soil of that element as one many years of continuous wheat growing had in a measure exhausted. Under the system of mixed husbandry and a rotation of crops, a much larger amount of yard and stable manure has been supplied to return to the farm than under the four-crop system of special wheat growing, and this has been applied to the wheat crop with good results, but has not restored that large return of grain to the growth of straw that was common in the early history of the country. The writer can well remember instances in early times when 40 bushels per acre were threshed from straw of small growth, perhaps half the growth of crops of later times that would yield but 20 bushels. The failure of grain to mature a perfect seed or to return its maximum quantity per growth of straw indicates either a want of the mineral element to make the perfect grain, or seed, or a bad climatic influence which increases its development. A soil may contain in abundance all the elements of plant food, all the properties necessary to produce a perfect crop, except one, and yet fail to produce a perfect crop. Our lands, though not unproductive, seemed to require something more than the ordinary means of fertilization to enable us to grow the same abundant and perfect crops of wheat as in former years.

Five years I purchased one ton of superphosphate, which I used on ten acres of wheat, one-half of a 20-acre field; it was drilled in with the seed. The growth of straw was not sensibly increased, but the yield of wheat was increased over 60 bushels, and the quality much improved. This was the first used in this section, and was the poorest quality I have used. Its use has since been increased, and now it is used all over the wheat and barley crops, and but little wheat is sown in this town without it. The superphosphate in use now has a wonderful effect on both straw and grain. It seems to supply that element of the soil which long cropping with wheat had in a measure exhausted, as well as to stimulate growth, often to the amount of one-half the crop. Phosphoric acid was doubtless the element of which our soil was most exhausted. A pure superphosphate, that is, animal bone, or the bone or phosphate rock reduced with sulphuric acid, does not contain all that exhausted soils require in general to restore them, but the addition of potash and nitrogen is needful; and much of the superphosphate now sold contains these. There are many different manufactures of these chemical manures now sold on the market, each of which may be adapted to different soils, for all soils do not require the same. I have tried four different brands and have a chosen one, which I now use, but as I do not wish to advertise any man's goods to the neglect of others which may be equally good, will not express my preference. The time has been when the farmer scoffed the idea of manuring the soil with chemical fertilizers, but when experience has so often proved what science has taught us of its necessity, the wise farmer accepts the truth, and avails himself of its benefits. Chemical fertilizers and improved cultivation have more than doubled the products of English agriculture within the past 50 years, and will do much for American agriculture when needed.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

Department of Agriculture.

When we take into consideration that Agriculture furnishes more than three-fourths of our exports, and that these exports have created a balance of trade $200,000,000 in our favor, it might be thought strange that this greatest interest should have no direct voice in the Government; that its chief Commissioner should be accorded a mere clerk's salary; that in the appointment of Commissioner, heretofore, no discriminating attention has been given to the real wants of Agriculture, and that his cast-off for the duties of the important trust has often been scarcely that of a first-class clerk, yet we suppose that the capacity even of such a Commissioner might correspond with his salary. In fact, so far as a clear understanding of agriculture and the proper duties of the office, the Statistician has been, under most administrations, superior to his chief. But this want of proper consideration on the part of Government is perhaps excusable on the ground that the great mass of farmers are quite indifferent to any organization of their interest.

This Department ought to be the inspiring head of all the State Agricultural Colleges, organized under the Act of 1862—judicious and wise in recommending a proper course of experiments to be carried out on the experimental farms attached to these Colleges. Its head should be thoroughly acquainted with the agricultural needs of all the States, so that he may assist in devising methods of improving and increasing their productions. He should be a man of sufficient capacity to take in the whole field—to make a careful study of the agricultural situation in all parts of the country, assist in turning attention to the production of crops needed for local consumption, where the soil is propitious—teaching the great lesson of self support by diversity of crops, and of independence through home production. And as the relation of demand and supply is the key to all commerce, the statistics of production and consumption should be so accurate that any intelligent farmer or trader may be able to come to a safe conclusion as to the basis of market value. He should be able to command our agents abroad, and gain accurate information as to imports and consumption in the respective countries, of those articles produced here in excess of home demand.

If this Department were thoroughly equipped by Congress for carrying out this program, it would swell our exports to the utmost limit of our surplus production. The best interests of the whole country require that it should be treated with a wise liberality and furnished with a defined policy. If it has not been all we might wish in the past, let us hope for great future improvement under the fostering care of a Congress that appreciates the reasons for its establishment. France, Germany and Austria have Ministers of Agriculture, and yet agriculture in none of these countries reaches such colossal proportions as in ours.

We believe this Department, properly conducted, would promote the welfare of the whole people in an eminent degree. And entertaining these views we were a little surprised that one of our cotemporaries, likely, in reviewing the Report of the Department, should argue that an appropriation to agriculture was an anomoly under our system, saying: "If we mistake not) agriculture is the only business that receives special appropriation." What, then, is an appropriation for a break-water, for dredging a river—the large grit to the Pacific Railroad Company, etc? Is not navigation a business? and the carrying trade of a railroad a business? "But these benefit the public," our cotemporary may say. "Certainly; but do not the objects promoted by a well-conducted Agricultural Department benefit a still wider public?" Our cotemporary admits that "If the influence and labors of the Department tend to improve the agriculture of the country at large, all are benefitted, both consumers and producers." Well, if it does not "tend to benefit the agriculture of the country at large," then it is the fault of the conduct of the Department. Had we not better strive to reform and enlarge the conduct of the Department rather than pour cold water on it, and discourage efforts to build it up.—*Rural New Yorker.*

Horses in China.

The horse of China can only justly be described as small in comparison with some of the larger European kinds, which are themselves the result of many generations of scientific breeding. Admiral Rous remarked: "We have succeeded in establishing a breed with one-fifth more speed and strength than the original stock—an increased average stature of from 15 to 15½ hands." The true Barb, one of the ancestors of the English thoroughbred racer, was described by Beringer as "seldom exceeding 14 hands and an inch." Much the same thing could be said of the horse of China, of the China pony, as we usually call him; he averages, perhaps, thirteen hands and two inches, often reaching fourteen hands, which is the limit of height for racing purposes at present. What he lacks, however, in height he makes up for in build; there is an immense deal of muscle and bone packed up in his frame; he is very far from work; his spirit and endurance are most remarkable, as our race-courses and paper hunts amply testify. In the latter these plucky animals will carry a man, weighing perhaps 18st pounds, to the front in a country for a dozen miles or more with conspicuous gameness. They are also very serviceable as draught animals; as carriage horses they are at least as fast as the larger imported horses, although, of course, they are only adapted for lighter vehicles.

The North-China pony is not less conspicuous for his qualities as a race horse. Racing on the flat is pursued with great ardour by foreign residents in China. As soon as the treaty of Nanking conceded to foreigners at the various treaty ports enough ground for the purpose, race-courses were formed. At first, horses and ponies were imported literally from every quarter of the globe. The lavish scale of expenditure of the earlier residents made the high prices requisite to procure the finest specimens of English thoroughbreds, and of the purest breed of Arabs of the desert, seem insignificant sums. This extravagance culminated in the purchase for 6,000, of Blacksome, the winner of the Ascot Cup, after a dead-heat with the celebrated cup-horse Tim Whiffler; and of Hadji, an Arab, supposed to be of pure breed, for 9,000 taels, the equivalent of his weight in silver—9,000 taels weighing about 670 pounds avoirdupois. The race courses of Hong Kong and Shanghai exhibited at one time a variety of animals from different countries probably unparalleled elsewhere—horses from England, Australia, thorough and half-bred, from Oregon, and from all places where pure breeds of horses exist. Foreigners in China are deprived of the opportunity of improving the native breed of horses. The native dealers never allow a good mare or a stallion to leave Mongolia; only geldings enter China through the passes in the Great Wall. Whether this is due in any way to Government interference is difficult to say. Nevertheless, there is reason to believe that the breed is improving; the high prices paid in Shanghai for likely looking griffins have their natural effect in Mongolia, and a larger proportion of well-shaped animals are yearly brought down; doubtless increased care is taken in the selection of sires and dams; hitherto, however, a pedigree is rarely produced by a Chinese dealer, and when it is, is regarded rather as a bad joke than as an authentic document.—*Toronto Globe.*

English Weights and Measures

An act was passed by Parliament, Aug. 8th, last, intended to compel greater uniformity in weights and measures throughout Great Britain and Ireland, but coming as it did near the close of the session, it attracted little attention, and its publication now seems to take the papers by surprise. The North British *Agriculturist* says:

"The act, which contained 86 clauses and six schedules, comes into operation on the 1st of January next. Clause three provides that the same weights and measures shall be used throughout the United Kingdom, and these are the imperial standards both of measures and weight. Imperial measures of length are of course 12 inches to the foot; three feet to the yard; five and one-half yards to the rod, pole, or perch; 22 yards to the chain; 220 yards to the furlong; and 1,760 yards to the mile. The rood of land shall contain 1,210 square yards, and the acre 4,840 square yards. Then, as to imperial measures of 'weight and capacity,' the only legal pound will be 16 ounces, each containing 16 drams. The only admissible stone after the 1st of January next will be 14 lbs.; the cwt., of course, 112 lbs.; and the ton 20 cwt. Clause 15 is a very important one, running as follows: 'The unit or standard measure of capacity, from which all other measures of capacity, as well for liquids as for dry goods, shall be derived, shall be the gallon containing 10 imperial standard pounds weight of distilled water, weighed in air against brass weights, with the water and the air at the temperature of 62° Fahrenheit's thermometer, and with the barometer at 30 inches. The quart shall be one fourth part of the gallon, and the pint shall be one eighth part of the gallon. Two gallons shall be a peck, and eight gallons shall be a bushel, and eight such bushels shall be a quarter, and 80 such bushels shall be a chaldron.'"

It is made illegal to sell anything by heaped measure—the measure in all cases is to be filled level with the brim or struck off. All local or customary measures are not only made unlawful, but any market report containing them in any price list or newspaper subjects the publisher to a fine not exceeding 10 shillings on each copy published. Thus, says our contemporary, for printing quotations of the Perth or Dundee cattle sales at so much per Dutch stone (17 lbs.), a paper having 50,000 circulation would be liable to the monstrous and absurd fine of £25,000!

The only exception the act allows to the adoption of the imperial system of weights and measures, as above, is in favor of the metric or decimal system if that shall be introduced. At a meeting of merchants at Liverpool the present month, a recommendation was resolved that hereafter grain, flour and meal should be sold by the 100 lbs. or cental, and this, it is inferred, would not be considered as in contravention of the new law.—*Country Gentleman.*

Counterfeits and Adulterations in Butter.

One of the curiosities of trade and invention, arising from the accumulation of tallow in our markets, is the singular counterfeit of an important animal product—butter—and the adulteration of cheese, by oleomargarine in the latter case, and its substitution for butter in the other. It is a product of tallow, and notwithstanding all that has been said and written about it, this product has steadily increased, until it not only forms an important article of export, but is more largely used at home for counterfeiting and adulteration than is generally suspected.

It has steadily made its way, and against the most severe denunciations as to its injury to health and its total unfitness to measurably supply even the place of butter. It has even deceived so-called judges at some of our fairs, and at the last great dairy fair in New York, a well digested plot was formed and carried out to deceive the judges there. It did not work, and for the reason that it is *not* butter, but a swindle; and, called butter, he who makes it and vends it as butter should be sent to the penitentiary. Nevertheless, there is nothing about oleomargarine that is detrimental to health. In fact, it is altogether superior to the nasty stuff called butter which comprises fully one half the product sent to market, and really made from milk. Commission houses in Chicago and other cities are full of it, which the proprietors are vainly trying to get 5, 6 and 7 cents a pound for, and without buyers.

As a legitimate product of beef cattle, oleomargarine will continue to be made. For various cooking purposes, if cleanly manufactured, it is precisely of the same value as good butter, far better than much of the rancid grease called butter. If put upon the market as oleomargarine, under a guarantee that it is cleanly manufactured from fresh tallow, it would soon commend itself if cheap enough for cooking purposes, and be far preferable to the compound formed with it by churning with milk, thus giving it the germs of taint, or intensifying those already contained from the use of tainted fat. To be successful, eventually it must be sold in our markets for what it is—prepared fat, as useful and as wholesome an article as lard, perhaps more so, especially among that large class of our citizens whose religion or taste will not allow them to eat the fat of swine.—*Prairie Farmer.*

DESPERATE DEVILS.

Outbreak of Indian Prisoners.

FORT ROBINSON, Neb., Jan. 10.—The hostile Cheyennes imprisoned here since last October, having been informed by the commanding officer a few days ago that they were to be taken back to their agency, in the Indian Territory, determined to die rather than consent to such a movement. Since the information was imparted to them they have become very sullen, and have repeatedly expressed a determination to die before consenting to such movement. They have become very stubborn for the past few days, and fearing an attempt to escape from the Post, its Commander has placed a strong guard over their prison room. Last night about 11 o'clock, while nearly every one was in bed except the ever-watchful guard, the savages jumped through the windows of the prison room, and made for the cold prairie, which is thickly coated with frozen snow. As they ran they fired on the guard from revolvers, which they had concealed since their capture. dangerously wounding four of the guards, one of whom has since died, and another is not expected to survive the day; the main guard rushed out, upon hearing the firing, and upon ascertaining the cause and seeing the fleeing hostiles running for the bluffs, immediately followed and opening fire shot and killed over 40 savages. Over 100 of the cavalry mounted and dismounted, are still in pursuit of the fleeing savages. The sharp bang of the carbine in the hands of our men can be heard from the hills three miles distant, where the savages have evidently made for. It is thought not one of them will escape. Further particulars soon.

A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION.

Several Men Escape a Sudden Death by what Seems a Miracle.

PITTSTON, Jan. 9.—At 7 o'clock this morning, just after the miners had descended into the Pennsylvania Coal Company's shaft No. 4, near this place, a terrible gas explosion occurred near the carriage way, by which several men were supposed to have been killed. There has been for a few days a great change going on in a few mines adjoining No. 4, making itself visible upon the surface by numerous crevices, toppling over school houses, dwellings, etc. Gas oozed itself into No. 4, and when Peter Daley, the mining boss, opened the door leading to the old workings, an explosion took place that shook the earth in the vicinity with terrific force. The mining boss is burned terribly, and Patrick Lottus is The severely injured. remainder of the miners were in another chamber and escaped. The head house was totally dismantled. Consequently, several hours elapsed before the scene of the explosion could be reached, and it will take probably two weeks to get the shaft into working order again.

A CLAIMANT TO MILLIONS.

The Wife of a Boston Dentist Said to be Heir to Property Worth $10,000,000.

A special dispatch from Boston to the New York *Times* says:

A claimant to large estates in Maryland—the property of William Mackey, who died in the eighteenth century—and also in the City of Glasgow, valued at over $10,000,000, appears in the person of Mrs. Mary Marter, of this city, wife of Dr. Charles Marter, a dentist, who has been for some time abroad in poor health, and is now on his way home from India. In November last she read a paragraph in a Boston paper in reference to the claims of certain persons in Maryland to property left about 140 years ago by William Mackey. From this she claims to be directly descended, and she has put her claims in the hands of lawyers, and proposes to fight for her rights. Her story is that her father was Dr. Mackey, of Glasgow. Mrs. Marter says that when a little girl she often sheard her father speak of his grandfather's brother, William Mackey, who had died in Maryland, and who had left a large property, to which he undoubtedly was next heir. She says her father's grandfather was John Mackey, a brother of William, who died in Maryland. John was dissipated, and died wealthy. William, early in life, with a roving disposition, wandered to Maryland, where he married and became the owner of a large number of slaves and vast estates. When he died, by his will, dated in 1722, he cut off his two sons, William and Robert, with "five shillings and no more," and left each of his daughters a certain amount, and the residue of his property to his heirs in the old country. Mrs. Marter says that William's sons died at an early age, and were cut off for some overt act which greatly excited the anger of their father. Soon after William Mackey's death, in Maryland, his heirs became also heirs to an immense property in Scotland, to which Mrs. Marter lays claim, as well as to that at issue in Maryland. John Mackey, the brother, on dying left a son Henry, who afterward was the father of Mrs. Marter's father, Dr. Robert Mackey. She says that the property in Maryland which belongs to her is valued at about $2,500,000, and that those in Maryland now presenting their claims to it are descendants of the daughters of William Mackey, whose claims were covered by the provisions made explicitly for them in his will. Included in the property in Scotland, which Mrs. Marter says is hers, is Lang Side and Clyde Terrace, the latter a very large business block. Mrs. Marter's counsel here has retained counsel in Glasgow to look after his client's interest when the matter comes up for settlement, which will probably be in February. The claimant is in very moderate circumstances.

Now wait the warm and fragrant Spring,
When bees will hum and birds will sing
And bursting bud to bloom aspire—
John! dump some coal upon that fire!
—*New York Graphic.*

"WEALTH, INTELLIGENCE, EDUCATION."

Their Rule in Tensas and Caddo Parishes.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 7.—The Teller Committee met at 10 o'clock A. M., in Surveyor Wells' private office, in the Custom House. All the members were present. Sen. Bailey thought that, as near as possible, some definite plan of proceedings should be adopted, so that the charges could be met by evidence on the other side. The Chairman declared that he would allow all necessary time for the production of such evidence, but no detailed plan would be published.

J. Ernest Breda was then sworn, and testified: Is a native of Natchitoches, and has always resided in the Parish; served during the war in the second Louisiana Regiment, has been a Republican since 1871; has been a stump speaker, but did not take part in the last campaign, having been driven away from home on the 22d of September. Witness gave an account of the manner of organizing Republican ward clubs, and the formation of Executive Committees. He then said that one Ward club was to meet on the 24 of September. On that day there was to be a Democratic Convention. At our meeting, there were 150 Republicans present, and I addressed the assembly. After adjournment we started home—I and my brothers on horseback. We had gone about 100 yards when, at the corner of a street, a body of armed cavalrymen opposed our passage. Pistols were drawn and strong language used. At this moment I saw some more armed men coming down the side street. My brothers and I took down the side street, went into the woods, and, encircling the town, arrived home during the night. There we remained until the next day. Early on that morning, my uncle, formerly Mayor of Natchitoches, rode up. He had not spoken to me since 1874, on account of my politics. He told me that my house was to be attacked and desired me to surrender. I told him I would not, and never surrender. My uncle said he would bring a guarantee from a body of armed men that the house and property would be respected if we would leave the place within two hours. My uncle went back and conferred with the committee of armed men. My brother left in the meanwhile. I followed. We remained in the woods till the 25th of October. On that day my uncle came again to the house, and told my sister that we were to be hunted with blood-hounds. On the 31st of October we left for Shreveport, and have remained there until summoned before the Grand Jury.

To Sen. Teller—There is no lawlessness among the negros. Miserable individuals, they hardly dare strike back. They are murdered like sheep. Political speeches, calling upon the negros to cut loose from the Democratic party, are styled incendiary speeches, and I never made a speech that was not strictly a speech on simply political subjects. The negros are ground down, and cannot even sell their crops under their own names. There are 1,700 white and 4,000 colored voters in the parish, and there are more white men who vote the Republican ticket than blacks who vote the Democratic ticket. The Democratic majority in the recent election, given in the official *Journal*, was 2,800.

Witness produced a copy of the *Vindicator*, calling it the organ of the bulldozers, otherwise the Democrats, self-styled, of the Parish, and read certain warnings therefrom. Also, a copy of a document purporting to be an agreement to which if the witness became a party, he could return home. The document was read. It is in the shape of a preamble, narrating from a bulldozing point of view all the things the said Iredas or some of them or other of the good citizens of Natchitoches, and ending with a promise to be signed by the Breda brothers that they would hereafter behave themselves, etc. Witness stated that the formality of signing this document was respectfully declined, on the ground that the statements in the preamble are false in every particular.

To Sen. Garland the witness gave details of the organization of armed bands. The witness was formerly Parish Judge, and held the office until the Nicholls Government came into power.

Senator Cameron—Are any prosecutions against fraudulent voters, etc., being carried on in any State Court?

Witness—No, sir, for, if so, the whole Judiciary of the State would have to be brought to trial. I state this on hearing only. I know nothing of it from personal observation. I and my brother were driven out simply because we were political leaders.

Dr. J. Breda was sworn and testified: The Republican meeting on the 21st of September was held for the purpose of instructing the colored people as regards the changes which had been made in the number and boundaries of the different Wards of the Parish, so that they might vote intelligently. The doctor corroborated the testimony of previous witnesses.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 8.—At the meeting of the Teller committee, J. N. McGill, of Tensas Parish, was recalled, and testified concerning armed bands from other parishes and from Mississippi. He heard a great many things, but knows that the reports were greatly exaggerated. He said: In fact, if you inquire rigidly into many stories, you will find not a word of truth in them. Armed bands did some things which I could not approve. They threatened Bland and Douglas with attack. I heard the leader of the military, Capt. Cain, say, "The white man shall rule." There is hostility between the negro and the white man. I won't try to disguise this fact. Show me a negro who votes the Democratic ticket, and I will show you a hypocrite or a fool.

Fleming Branch (colored) of Texas, was the next witness. He testified as follows: Was at Fairfax's house October 15th, when Capt. Peck's party came; knew Capt. Peck; they came over the levee on the trot; was in the room with Fairfax when Peck rushed in and fired twice at Fairfax, who ran out the back door, another negro named Senator, standing there, was shot down. Peck knelt upon him and fired five shots into him. Mr. Kemp grabbed at me and Mr. Gold ran shot me through the right arm. Witness bared his arm and showed where a flesh wound was made.) Peck was shot and killed by some one in his own party. Fairfax did not fire a shot. Peck was killed by his own men. This was the first trouble that occurred in the parish last year. In this disturbance Senator was killed. Kennedy and myself were wounded and Fairfax escaped. These were all the people in the house at the time. I and a number of colored people took refuge in the bushes because we were frightened. Fairfax was an upright man and a Republican. I suppose he was attacked on account of his politics."

Daniel Kennedy was the next witness sworn. Is a resident of Tensas Parish. After narrating preliminary facts, the witness stated that Fairfax knew in the afternoon that a body was about to visit his house, and said, "I was told by a boy, who came up from Waterproof when the party came, that they said they wanted Fairfax." The witness' story corresponded with that of Branch. He was shot while looking out of the window trying to recognize the assailants; a buckshot passed through the window pane and entered witness' shoulder; witness got out of the house and ran home through a cornfield; after having his wounds dressed he took to the woods; there were several others in the woods; they had all heard that white men from other Parishes were inquiring for them and they wanted to hide themselves; on Tuesday following the attack on Fairfax, the killing of negros began; some 80 negros were killed altogether. I ran away and came to New Orleans; have been here ever since; was acquainted with most persons who were killed. The witness named five.) It was rumored that 80 were killed; I have never heard that anybody was called to account for the shooting at Fairfax's house.

Viola Wallace (colored) was then sworn. She is a resident of Tensas. The witness' testimony was similar to that of Branch and Kennedy. She was in the house at the time of the disturbance, and saw the killing of Willie Senator. It was reported that 80 colored people were killed by the bull-dozers. (The witness named five of those killed.) I only saw one of the negros after being killed. This one was Charley Bethel. He was shot and had his throat cut. This was after Register's men came, and while they were in the Parish. This was about two weeks after the attack on the house of Fairfax. Register was the Sheriff.

Rebecca Ross (colored) sworn: Is a resident of Tensas and was present at the disturbance in Fairfax's house. Witness' testimony was corroboratory of the three previous witnesses. She testified that she came away because she heard that the white people said that all the colored people at Fairfax's that night would have to leave.

Geo. Ralston, a planter, testified: He ran for the Legislature on the Independent ticket in Tensas; he has always affiliated with the Democratic party; the candidates on the Independent ticket were all Democrats. Witness stated that the outrages in the Parish had a bad effect upon the laborers, and many of them have left the Parish. Witness had but little personal knowledge of the outrages.

E. C. Ruth (colored), of Tensas, stated that he was a Justice of the Peace; he saw the body of a negro boy who was killed by a company of armed men October 19th; 200 colored men in his Ward were forced to join a Democrat Club, and they received certificates entitling them to protection. Witness testified to other acts of lawlessness.

R. J. Walker (colored), of Tensas, repeated the testimony already given. He stated that, from fear of personal trouble, he published a card in a Parish paper advising the negroes to support the regular Democratic ticket.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 9.—At the meeting of the Teller Committee, to-day, William D. Rollins, of Tensas, testified: He is a Democrat, but was a candidate on the Independent ticket in the last election; saw no outrages committed; saw a body of 15 armed men at a poll, election day, under Hardboro, Deputy Sheriff; thinks that intimidation frightened the negros so much that they staid away from the polls, and that if the negros had voted, they would have had a majority of 1,000; at the close of the election he demanded a count of the votes at poll No. 1, but it was refused, and the band of armed men took the box to St. Joseph.

J. K. Loscey, of Tensas, testified: He was one of the posse of Sheriff Register, summoned to disperse the negros who it was rumored, were massing at Boss' place, for the purpose of attacking Waterproof; Register had about 40 armed men. On the way we heard that the negros had massed, and that firing had commenced between them and our advanced guard of two men. The order was then given to advance and fire. The firing was down in the direction of where the negros were supposed to be massed. The negros were in their quarters, and, when we fired one volley, they dispersed. Two or three were wounded. I don't think any were killed.

Frank Watson (colored) was the nex witness. He lived eight miles from Waterproof, and was told by a Democratic friend that the place was getting too hot for him—that he had better clear out; he ran away, leaving his partly gathered crop to take care of itself; that day there were 50 or 60 armed men from Onachita in Waterproof; saw them put a rope around a negro boy's neck because he would not answer the questions they asked him; took to the woods, being told that the crowd wanted him; there were four negros in the woods hiding; hid for nine days and then went to Plaquemine. Witness then said: I don't want to go back, because I don't think it would be exactly safe.

Another witness testified that, on the day of the election there was a riot in Caledonia, Caddo Parish; the riot commenced after the voting was over, and three negros were killed. The witness testified to a general intimidation of the negros in Caddo.

MESSAGE OF THE GOVERNOR OF WISCONSIN.

He Makes a Good Showing of the Condition of State Affairs, and Congratulates Them Upon the Accomplishment of Resumption.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 9.—The message of Gov. William E. Smith was delivered to the Legislature at Madison, to-day, and is confined chiefly to State matters. The finances are in a healthy and satisfactory condition. The State indebtedness remains the same as last year, about two and a half millions. This added to the indebtedness of counties, cities, towns, villages, and school districts in the State, makes the public indebtedness of the people of Wisconsin about $12,000,000. The real value of the taxable property in the State is $1,000,000,000, while the amount of property actually assessed is a little less than half this amount; hence, had the assessment been made at the actual value, the rate of taxation would not have exceeded one per cent instead of being nearly two per cent. Relering to educational matters, he hopes some feasible plan will be adopted for uniform text books throughout the State and materially reducing their cost. The benevolent institutions are all in a satisfactory condition. From the report of the Railroad Commissioner it appears that half a million more passengers were carried than last year, and 100,000 tons more of freight. Of the whole number of passengers carried only two were killed. The total absence of all serious complaints against the roads shows the present law to be well suited to the purposes for which it was enacted. The Governor devotes considerable space to the tramp nuisance, and says that the assessments of these criminal parasites levy on individuals and communities, nearly equal the whole State taxation, and recommends vigorous measures of relief. In conclusion, the Governor says: I cannot forbear to congratulate you that the United States has resumed its normal relations to its own citizens and the world at large by paying on demand all of its national obligations in money current wherever civilization extends, and that this has been accomplished without any unnatural contraction of the currency or violent shock to the business interests of the people. Trade and commerce are reviving, with exports largely in excess of the imports, and we may reasonable anticipate from this time forward a substantial, healthy and remunerative development of all branches of business.

ANOTHER ODIOUS MONOPOLY.

Strong Opposition to a Renewal of the Patent on the Boot and Shoe Sewing Machine.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—A remonstrance has been numerously signed, and will be presented to the Senate and the House of Representatives, against the extension of the McKay & Mathies' Sewing Machine patent for sewing boots and shoes. This patent was granted in 1862, and will expire in August, 1879. It is now sought to have the patent extended. The signers of the remonstrance comprise manufacturers and dealers in boots and shoes. They say that when the 14 years' term was abolished, and a 17 years' term substituted, it was made a part of the law that no 17 years' patent should be extended. It is well known, they say, that the petitioners for an extension have made over $5,000,000 from this patent, which is their base of operations, and their stock in quoted at $1,500,000. In face of the fact that of the approaching expiration of the leading patent, they set forth that the petition is urgently supported by an immense lobby of lawyers and others now in Washington and in their employ. They ask Congress to refuse to grant further monopolies to these or any other parties who have enriched themselves through their own inventions or the inventions of others, beyond the term now allowed by law. They believe that public sentiment is opposed to the extension of any of these patents.

NINE DAYS OF FREEZING.

Terrible Experience of a Western Mail Carrier.

HELENA, Mont., Jan. 9.—On the 27th of December, mail driver Casey left Sun River in a mail cart for Fort Benton. Not reaching Twenty-eight Mile Springs station, half way to Benton, and a blinding snow storm prevailing at the time, it was supposed that he was lost. Search was made, and on the 5th inst. Casey was found seated in the cart, which the horse drawing slowly along, about 20 miles north of Spary's Station. During all this time he had wandered on the prairie in nearly a circle, picketing the horse and camping out nights. His feet were frozen, but it is believed not seriously. The only thing tha passed his lips was "tobacco" and "snow," the thermometer the whole time being below zero.

The Better Part.

Milwaukee Sun.

A Miss Kvilda La Chapelle is delivering lectures throughout the State. She walks a hundred miles while ordinary women are working a blue dog on a green cloth.

COLORADO.

The Centennial State—The Town of Greeley, and the Monument it is to the Great Editor.

Rev. FRANK Smith, a former Toledoan, writes the following interesting letter to the Albany *Evening Journal*, from Greeley, Col.:

The Scotch are said, even more than other people, to shamefully neglect their great men while living, but to lavish costly monuments on them when dead. Our own country, however, while she awards, with no niggardly hand, honors and position to those who are still able to render valued services, soon forgets them when "lost to life and use," and seldom proves her appreciation by a worthy monument. One hundred years have passed and she has not yet erected a fitting one to him she calls her "*father*;" what, then, can her *sons* expect?

No, if one would insure for himself a due and lasting memorial after he is gone, he must build it himself. He may seek the whitest marble, or the most polished granite, may employ the most skillful designers and sculptors, and watch with daily increasing satisfaction the graceful shaft which shall hereafter distinguish him from the great unknown. Or better far he may labor to such good purpose and for such lasting good, that his life-work itself may be an all sufficient and enduring monument.

Of this latter kind are the monuments that will long perpetuate the name of Horace Greeley. On the one side of the continent the great newspaper, the *Tribune*; on the other the thriving town which not only bears his name, but carries out his ideas. As if the whole wide country, from the Atlantic to the Rocky Mountains, over which, in his breadth of knowledge and sympathy, his *mind* was wont to range had become his resting place. The *Tribune* as representing the product of fertile, untiring brain, "the toils of thought," standing for a headstone, and the town on the slopes of the Rocky Mountains, as typifying that tireless energy which led him where the feet of few white men had ever trod, filling the humbler place of foot-stone. And on the town of Greeley, as well as on the great daily which recognizes him as its founder, has he left the impress of his great individuality.

Ruskin says that every artist and workman puts something of himself, of his character into everything he does. Whether the *generalization* be true or not, certain it is that the Town of Greeley resembles, as well as shows, the influence of its namesake. Both are unique. Horace Greeley it is true was, in a general way, a man. He wore trousers and hats (the latter especially) and found beef and potatos essential to creature comfort. Beyond this he was himself *sui generis*. So the Village of Greeley is in a general way a Village. It has the customary "Main" street, with its dozen or more stores, each of which has everything to sell: it has the usual assortment of small but prodigiously ugly meeting houses; but here or hereabouts the marks of classification cease and the points of difference begin.

In the first place, it is one of the few walled towns, to my knowledge, erected in modern times. It is entirely surrounded by a wall or a fence (if you prefer), having a circumference of some 40 miles.

No animals are permitted to range within this enclosure, and those ranging on the prairies are effectually barred out. The town may be said to be corralled.

Instead of being fenced internally like the ordinary town, it is fenced externally. There being no need of fences within the town, and lumber being scarce, they are dispensed with altogether. In place of them rows of cottonwood trees are planted around the lots. The effect is to give the houses a sort of "strayed or stolen" look; and at this time of the year, too, the trees have shed their leaves, and occasional bushes and tall dry grass give an air of careless negligence to the grounds that make one think that the town, like Horace, is rather forgetful of appearance, and goes with its pants in its boots.

This removal of partition was a favorite idea of Mr. Greeley, not only as regards different colors of the human race, but in the construction of towns likewise.

Another mark of authorship is in its rigid teetotalism. Nothing more intoxicating than sweet cider can be sold in that place. A solemn pledge to that effect accompanies each purchase of land. The accustomed village groggery, with its bevy of human "blue-bottles" buzzing and guzzling around it is wanting. Nor does the hotel seem to have the charm for gentlemen of leisure that it is wont to have. Not only are there no topers to be seen on the streets, but very few of the fraternity of "loafers"—which suggests a probable connection between the rather dull amusement of "loafing" and the chance of being asked to "take a drink," the latter standing in the relation of a *"raison d'etre* to the former.

To atone for this lack of more genial but insidious liquids, Greeley prides itself on being the best *watered* place in this arid country. Its irrigating system is beyond reproach or criticism. A ditch six or eight feet in width flows for some distance along the fence, and within the fence ditches and sub-ditches are so large and numerous as to suggest a highly imaginative resemblance between Greeley and Venice. This irrigation system, however, has its drawbacks—as, for instance, when one has left the grounds about the house perfectly dry in the afternoon, but on sallying forth for an evening call, with well polished boots, becomes suddenly conscious of a damp and sticky sensation about the feet, and on looking about him discovers that the house has been converted into an island in the interests of "irrigation."

To these advantages Greeley adds that of this Colorado climate and atmosphere. Not so high as Denver and Colorado Springs, it is perhaps even better for those who come here for the benefit of "those fleshly balloons tethered in the chest." The weather, too, at this season enables the invalid to get full benefit of the pure, light, dry air. In November, through the nights are cold, during the clear, cloudless days one can walk out without an overcoat, and even sit in the sunlight in perfect comfort.

And *lastly*, to *practical* minds, some 30 miles west, though they seem but five, are the grand peaks of the main ridge of the Rockies—some of them bare and dark, others covered with a cloak of dazzling snow; always sublimely beautiful and ever changing with the play of light and shade of sun and cloud.

With all these natural advantages, together with the favorable auspices attending its origin, it is not surprising that Greeley is a prosperous, growing town. Most of the original colonists who, under the leadership of Hon. N. C. Meeker, formerly on the New York *Tribune*, and now editor of the Greeley *Tribune*, came out here some eight years ago, are still here. Others have come and are coming yearly, and everything gives promise that before many years a notable city on the slopes of the Rocky Mountains will be a no less worthy monument to the memory of Horace Greeley than is the great journal on the shores of the Atlantic. F. S.

Beauties of Southern Civilization.

From the New Orleans Times.

On Monday last, for the second time within a year, the crowds of ladies and children shopping on Canal street were exposed to a fusilade of pistol shots fired by criminals with intent to murder. In other cities, whether of the South or North, such deeds of violence are perpetrated in slums and back streets; hence women and children are comparatively safe; but in New Orleans the custom now obtains to have these brutal battles on our principal boulevard and to send the bullets flying among our daughters, wives and babies. A citizen complains to us that twice within a few month have the lives of his family been put in jeopardy in this disgraceful manner. We beg to ask the authorities, who are charged to keep the peace, how long this thing is to be permitted? We have laws enough on the subject.

A Solemn Warning to Butler.

Cincinnati Commercial.

If Ben. Butler does not push the investigation of the cipher telegrams, he will lose his hold on the people in a degree greater than he imagines. A great many persons

News of the Week.

THE CAPITAL.

The report made by Representative Wood, from the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, presents a condensed history of the metric system, and assumes that the first essential thing for the civilized world is to establish at it is since a fixed and determined unit of international lineal measurement. To secure that desirable end, the Committee earnestly recommend the early passage of the House bill introduced last session to establish the metric system in the Postoffices and Custom houses of the United States, on and after July 1, 1880.

Sec. Sherman called attention to the fact that the Treasury now holds a large amount of gold, silver and greenbacks, much more than is any use for at present. Reference is also made to the reports from all parts of the country that resumption had given confidence to business, and that, both at home and abroad, business seems to be stimulated, and is being conducted with renewed activity.

The arrangement of the Treasury Department with the national bank depositories is that all subscriptions to the four per cent. loan are to be through them, are to be received in coin. Subscriptions through other sources can be paid for in greenbacks. The subscription of $30,000,000 made recently was payable partly in coin and partly in greenbacks. The subscription made on the 31 inst. by a New York national bank of $800,000 was paid in coin. On January 1, the national bank depositories held $11,556,380 in coin on account of subscriptions to the four per cent loan. Patent office receipts for the year just ended, $722,825.

Mr. Cox (N. Y.) introduced a bill providing for taking the census of the population, wealth, and industry of the United States on the 1st of June, 1880. The Superintendent of the census is to be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The clerical force is to be appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, and one or more Supervisors for each State and Territory, not exceeding in all 150, are to be nominated by the Governors of the several States. The schedules of inquiries at the tenth census are the same as those contained in the act for taking the census for 1870, with some additional provisions. Three million dollars is fixed as the maximum cost of the census. The bill proposes subvention to any State or Territory which, in the intermediate five years may take a census and report to the Secretary of the Interior, the Government in such case to pay the costs.

At Washington Jan. 9, the galleries were crowded when the House reassumed after recess. At 2 o'clock the Senators entered, preceded by the Vice President and Secretary of the Senate, and took seats in the body of the hall. The Supreme Court next entered, the Judges clad in their robes of office, and took seats provided for them in front of the Speaker's desk. The President and Cabinet were next ushered in, taking seats to the right of the Speaker's desk. The Committee of Arrangements proceeded slowly down the main aisle, all present standing. The body of the late representative hartrige enclosed in a handsome casket, adorned with wreaths and crosses of flowers was then borne to a catafalque in front of the speaker's desk. After religious services the lid of the coffin was removed and the members approached and took a last glance at the features of their late colleague. The casket was then borne out of the hall, followed by the President and Cabinet, the Supreme Court, Senate and Georgia delegation. The Speaker accompanied the funeral cortege to the depot, and on his return the House adjourned.

The House Committee on Education and Labor, has authorized Representative Willis, of Kentucky, to report the bill heretofore agreed upon by the Committee, providing that not more than 15 Chinese shall be admitted to this country on any one vessel, with a request that the House specially assign the earliest possible day for its consideration. The Committee also changed the bill so as to provide that the date for it to go into effect shall be the 1st of July next.

A Fridays dispatch says the Potter Committee, on motion of Mr. McMahon, orders the investigation of the cipher telegrams and requests the House to grant an additional appropriation for expenses.

A Washington Jan. 10, the Senate Committee on Finance heard Gen. Raum, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, in opposition to the pending House bill on the reduction of the tobacco tax. He asserted that the enactment of the bill would cause an annual loss to the revenue of not less than $1,000,000 in the receipts from taxation on tobacco, and of at least $2,000,000 on the revenue from cigars.

Under instructions of the Court, the jury gave a verdict for defendant, and the case of Thomas J. Biggins against Gen. Grant, charging false imprisonment, was closed. Counsel for the plaintiff said that the testimony was not as expected.

A well attended meeting of the bar of the Supreme Court was held in the Court room Friday, and suitable action taken in relation to the death of Caleb Cushing. Sec. Evarts presided and resolutions were adopted, drafted by a committee consisting of Messrs. P. Phillips, Roscoe Conkling, Geo. H. Williams, A. T. Ackerman, Gen. Pike, and Attorney General Devens.

Representative Schleicher died at about 11 o'clock Friday. A meeting of members of both Houses of Congress from Texas, and other friends of the deceased was held Saturday to take proper steps concerning the disposition of his remains.

At Washington Jan 11, the Republican Senators met in caucus to consider the question of finance, and to determine whether, in view of the eminent success which has attended resumption, it would be politic to make an effort to unite the Republicans upon this question. This was decided in the affirmative, and a Committee was appointed to frame a resolution to be reported to a subsequent meeting of the caucus, which, if adopted, will be presented to the Senate.

At Washington Jan. 13, the case of Benjamin Scull and others against the United States in which claim was set up under a Spanish grant to 11,000 square miles, embracing 24 whole counties in Missouri and Arkansas, was decided by the United States Supreme Court adversely to the claimants. It is held that no survey of the alleged grant has been made, and that no survey can be made which will correspond with the concessions, owing to erroneous ideas which were entertained at the time it was made as to the source and direction of the White River, by which it was intended to be treated.

EAST

At Albany Jan. 9, Gov. Robinson, in his message, pays attention to the new capitol, which, he says, was to cost no more than $4,000,000 but which has already cost over $8,000,000, and is yet far from completion. To finish it on the present plan would cost $8,000,000 or $10,000,000 more. He urges that all appropriations for the building be stopped for the present, until it is ascertained whether its completion cannot be secured in some less extravagant and unostentatious style. A large part of the message is devoted to finance. The general fund debt, bounty debt, and floating debt have all been extinguished. The State tax has been reduced from $16,727,482, in 1874, to $7,941,297, in 1878. The total funded debt the 20th of September, 1878, was $9,154,634. The actual reduction of the debt the past fiscal year has been $1,893,000. The Governor recommends the co-operation of New York with the Canada in establishing an international park around the Niagara Falls, thus preventing the well known annoyance to visitors. An earnest protest is made against the organized attempt of the federal autnorities to interfere with the suffrage of citizens, and the question is earnestly pressed on the attention of the Legislature. The Governor considers resumption an event over which the country will be wise to rejoice, and feels confident of steadily increasing prosperity.

A dispatch of the 14 says an explosion occurred in Dunkenny, Rhonda Valley, last night. About 60 persons are believed to be killed.

The greatest excitement prevails in Pontypridd and the neighborhood which is densely populated districts. It is said there are 58 men in the pit. The explosion was very violent, and it is feared great numbers the men have escaped. The bottom of the suit is temporarily impassable. No attempt at rescue can be made yet.

WEST.

At Indianapolis Jan. 9, the Assembly convened at 10 o'clock in the new Court House of Marion County. The Senate organized by a resolution declaring the following as the Senate's choice of officers: Daniel D. Dale, Democrat, Secretary; Charles W. Ward, National, Assistant Secretary; and Richard Huncheon, Democrat, Doorkeeper. The Lieutenant Governor's vote was required to pass the resolution. Of the three National Senators, Majors voted with the Democrats, and Poindexter and Davis with the Republicans. The House organized by electing Henry S. Cauthorne, Democrat, as Speaker; Webster Dixon, Democrat, Clerk; D. B. Wilson, Democrat, Doorkeeper.

SOUTH.

At Jacksonville Jan. 10, a severe shock of earthquake was felt here about 11:45. It lasted about 30 seconds, and had a southeast to northwest motion. Buildings were violently shaken, crockery rattled and doors thrown open. The shock was felt at St. Augustine and down the Gulf coast from Punta Rossa to St. Marks, as well as over the interior portion of the State. Nothing of the kind was ever experienced here before.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

At London Jan 13, a dispatch from and offending member over to the courts. This is interpreted to mean that the Government will sacrifice that provision because a constitutional difficulty has been discovered, and not as a concession to the Reichstag.

A London telegram of Jan. 9, from Calcutta says, that, on Tuesday, General Roberts, finding the hostile tribes collected in considerable numbers attacked them with three small columns, and was completely victorious. Forty troops of the Punjaub cavalry charged a mass of the enemy, killing nearly three hundred. The skirmishers of the fenth Huzzars drove the enemy from Brouss Gromo. One hundred prisoners, a quantity of grain and a large number of cattle were captured. The British loss is trifling. The victory is expected to have a great moral effect.

A dispatch says the Library of the Berlin says that the Conservative journals agree in expressing scruples about the article of the Parliamentary Discipline bill which provides for handing Birmingham and Midland institute, at Birmingham, containing 80,000 volumes burned Saturday. It contained the most complete Shakespearian collection in two world, embracing 5,000 volumes. Comparatively few books were saved.

The Wardsle Iron and Coal company discharged 1,500 men, Saturday, because of the depression of trade.

All the rail way guards at Leeds have resumed work.

France.

A Paris dispatch dated Jan. 13th. confirms the report that Gen. Borel has resigned the Ministry of War, and that his resignation was accepted Monday. This involves the retirement of Miribel, his chief of staff, who is suspected of complicity in the reactionary designs of Gen. Ducrot. The new Minister of War is Gen. Gisley, a Liberal, and an orator of the Left Center. He has formally approved the program of the Government, while affirming the necessity of changes in the Magistracy.

Russa.

The plague has caused a general panic in Astrachan and Saratow. A correspondent of the Golos writes that the plague commenced in a village in the district of Enotaieoski. Precautions against the disease were at first neglected, as it was mistaken for typhus. When the weather became warmer, people died like flies. The dead lay unburied in the streets. The infected district has been surrounded by troops. Communication with Moscow has been stopped. General anxiety prevails throughout Russia. It is supposed that the deaths have been more numerous than stated.

A dispatch says the plague has reached the Government of Saratofino. At Naratzin 173 deaths have occurred. The mortality is estimated at 10 per cent. of the population. St. Petersburg papers propose that nurses and attendants of the red cross society should volunteer for Astrachan.

Afghanistan.

A Lahore correspondent telegraphs that Gen. Stewart's, occupation of Kandahar will mark the conclusion of a definite period of the war. All will then have been done that the Quetta column can possibly do before Winter. It is true that unlimited discretion is given Gen. Stewart and possibly he may project the occupation of Ghinsk, which is an important stragetical position, but unless something unforeseen occurs the army of Afghanistan will furnish no further intelligence of importance before the beginning of March.

Tunis.

A dispatch says Ben Ismail, Prime Minister of Tunis, repaired Friday, in full uniform, and accompanied with a numerous suite, to the French Consulate, and, on behalf of the Bey, tendered a full apology. The Consul of France received Ben Ismail, surrounded by all his staff and the officers of the French fleet stationed off Tunis.

HICKS-LORD.

The Bridegroom of a Notable Marriage Slowly Dying.

NEW YORK, Jan. 14—Thomas Lord, the millionaire, who created such a social sensation a year ago by marrying Mrs. Annette W. W. Hicks, is dangerously ill at their residence, No. 10 West Fourteenth street. There is very little hopes of his recovery. He is over 85 years of age. He was taken sick three years ago with a heavy cold, that has resulted in a general breaking up of his whole system and constitution. For two weeks past Mr. Lord has taken no nourishment, his stomach being so weak that all solid food was rejected, and he has been kept up solely by the aid of stimulants, which will scarcely serve him much longer. His wife is very faithful and is constantly in attendance, no one but herself and physicians being admitted to the sick room. Mr. Lord was married to Mrs. Hicks on December 31, 1877, by Cardinal McCloskey. At the time he had been a widower for six or seven years, and the marriage caused the greatest surprise. He is reported to be worth $1,500,000, and there are six sons to inherit his large fortune.

WOMAN'S INFLUENCE.

A Wife Induces her Husband to Restore a Large Sum of Stolen Money.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 13.—A sensation here is that of a quickened conscience, in which the defaulting and absconding Charles Etheridge figures in a new role. Etheridge left St. Paul in his flight the 25th of October, leaving the Merchants' National Bank of this City in the lurch to the tune of $44,500 for drafts cashed. Since his flight the bank officers have been endeavoring to ascertain the whereabouts of Etheridge, but without success until a couple of weeks ago. Soon after Etheridge's flight his wife, who was visiting friends in Massachusetts, returned here. How she found her husband has not been divulged, but she found and joined him in Canada, and through her a restitution was agreed to and Gov. Davis went and met Etheridge and fixed the matter up. The restitution made covers about 60 per cent. of the original $44,500 taken, and the expenses incurred by the bank in hunting him up. Of this $30,000 is in bonds and the balance in real estate, the deeds to which were signed by Etheridge before a notary in Niagara County, New York, December 20th, and by his wife December 26th, in Orleans County, New York. The bank officers think Etheridge has given up all his available assets.

Validity of the Mutual Life's New Policies Denied.

At a meeting of old policy-holders of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, Cyrus W. Field in the chair, resolutions were passed looking to a vigorous remonstrance against the injustice of the new experiments of that Company. The following significant clause appears in the resolutions:

"The Executive Committee are instructed to procure such legal advice and to take such legal steps as may be necessary and proper in the premises, and to give public notice that they will *resist the payment of death claims which may occur under policies issued upon the new plan.*"

ARIZONA TERRITORY.

What it is and What it May Become.

Facts and Figures Furnished by Gov. John C. Fremont.

Arizona has remained shut up and barred out from progress by its inaccessibility. There were neither railroads to it nor in it, nor any roads other than those afforded by the natural surface of the ground, and these are rendered more than ordinarily difficult by the hot, dry, and sandy or stony ground over which lie the approaches to the Territory. In the Territorial laws these are spoken of as desert roads.

Lately it has been made possible to reach Arizona on rail from the East by traveling along the 42d parallel of latitude down to San Francisco, in longitude 120°, and thence southeasterly 720 miles to Yuma, east of longitude 115° and south of latitude 33°. This isolation has kept it shut out from immigration and precluded the development which its great resources would otherwise have commanded. The language habitually applied to it is very descriptive of its remoteness. Californians and Arizonians alike speak of going *outside* when traveling to Arizona and *inside* when returning to the surrounding territory.

ITS TOPOGRAPHY.

Broken ranges of mountains, swelling occasionally into lofty peaks and pine covered masses, and alternating evenly with elevated valleys or mountain basins of greater or less size, represent in general terms the face of the country. Its water-ways are the Colorado and Gila Rivers with their tributaries, by which none enter either stream in the lower part of its course. The valley of the Colorado, between its river hills or bordering mountains, is dry, stony and barren, the mountains naked rock. Crossing these in journeying from Ehrenberg eastward, a traveler in Spring would find this country covered with bloom, the shrubs and trees being represented mainly by acacias and cacti, and the ground covered with low flowering plants among grass growing thinly. Except for some shrub like trees and gigantic cactus (*Saguara*), *ocotillo*, and yucca trees, the ridges hereabouts are still of naked, glistening, and black or barren rock, showing no signs of water. The acacias, *Paloverde*, and other trees crowd down into the dry stream-beds, reaching after the water below the sands, but the *ocotillo* and tree cactus delight in the sandy and dry mountain sides. In the rainy season these sandy beds are short-lived torrents. This is the country traversed by the desert roads. But this character of desert applied to the valleys, comes only from the heated air and absence of water, and not absence of vegetation. A running stream would make any where here a garden.

After some 70 miles, as the crow flies, over such country, what may be called fertile mountains are reached, that is to say, mountains more or less covered with shrubs and grass, and having springs and running streams, and affording good cattle ranges. Continuing eastward, the country in this respect steadily improves, until, after traversing over about a hundred miles of air distance from Ehrenberg, scattering junipers of very sturdy growth appear, several feet in diameter, with here and there small oaks and locust trees, and presently the road enters among pines, which henceforward generally cover the more upland parts of the country to the eastward.

The elevation here is probably 5,000 feet in the valley, the surrounding mountains rising several thousand feet higher. On the higher ranges, such as the San Francisco and Mogollon, these open woodlands become extensive forests, where the pines reach sometimes a solid growth of six feet in diameter. From Prescott the San Francisco Mountains show grandly in the horizon, the hills some 60 miles away to the northeast, and 12,700 feet above the sea. These and the Mogollon Mountains are the principal water-sheds of Arizona, rising from elevated plateaus of 6,000 or 7,000 feet into peaks between 9,000 and 13,000 feet above the sea. They make a forest country averaging 40 miles in breadth, extending through the Territory southeastwardly over the head waters of the Gila and probably into Mexico. North and east of these ranges, and running up into the flanks of the mountains, and reaching, doubtless, far to the south, are reported to be the finest coal-fields of Arizona,

THE SEASONS.

In contradistinction to the Eastern States, where the streams maintain themselves in gathering strength from mountain to sea, dryness is one of the striking features of this whole elevated region. Streams and springs are few and far apart. The larger streams gather no affluents, but waste themselves in absorption and evaporation, and the smaller ones usually sink and disappear before the first valley which they enter, where the soil is generally light and loose enough to absorb them. But the water can there always be found; in the lower country, at variable depths of 50 to 250 feet, and usually only a few feet below the surface in many of the upland valleys. This may give the necessary provision of water for the farms in the valleys, while the mountains furnish it sufficiently for stock. There are two seasons of falling weather: the heavy Summer rains, when the washes and stream-beds become temporary torrents, and the Winter season of rains and snow. At the end of October the falling weather of the Winter has not yet commenced except in the high mountains. The days are warm, the sky is uninterruptedly cloudless, but ice makes at night, and a light snow has just fallen on the San Francisco mountain. The grass there is beginning to dry up, and the northern face of the mountain is probably covered with snow.

TILLED LAND.

The Little Colorado and Salt River regions are reported to be the granaries of the Territory. Their valleys are becoming garden spots, and the bordering mountains great stock ranges, where the cattle are sometimes too fat to be driven. Like California, the country is favorable to animal life. In the Salt River Valley there are probably 100,000 acres under cultivation: in the Gila Valley, between the Pima villages and the mouth of the canon about 50,000; in the Santa Cruz Valley, about 25,000; and 25,000 more in all the Southern District. In the Salt River Valley the amount under cultivation is being rapidly augmented to the full extent of the water supply. On the San Pedro River the land is sparsely occupied, and mostly for grazing; and further to the eastward the country is better adapted to grazing than agriculture. Many years ago I found in the San Pedro and neighboring country many wild cattle which had belonged to ranchos now deserted, where the people had been killed or driven off by Indians. So far as my present knowledge goes, the grazing or farming lands comprehend an area about equal to that of the State of New York.

THE CLIMATE.

The climate of Arizona depends, of course, upon latitude and elevation. Heat is the predominant feature, and this in the lower country under an intensity seemingly not due to the latitude alone. In the dry, naked valley of the Colorado River the Summer heat is intense, and the season of Summer encroaches largely upon Spring and Autumn. Over the eastern part of Southern Arizona it is the same. North of the Gila River, and 50 miles East of the Colorado, the heat is already tempered by the elevation, and farther into the interior the increased elevation and wood-covered mountains make a pleasant and healthy climate. South of the Gila the open, low, dry, and hot region extends farther to the Eastward, but the Eastern half offers a fine country, increasing in good character to the South, up to and beyond the boundary line. Generally speaking, the climate is noticeably healthy. The heat of the sun does not produce the fatal effects of extreme heat in the moist climates of the Atlantic coast, and though the country itself may be said to have regular chill and fever, varying usually in temperature more than 30 degrees between three o'clock in the afternoon and three o'clock in the morning, this disease is almost unknown to its people. No instance of it has been known on the Colorado River, and though there is some thing of intermittent fever at Tucson, it is thought due rather to the alternate wetting and drying of the ground by irrigation than to any climatic influence.

MINERAL WEALTH.

But the chief industry of Arizona, that upon which the others will mainly depend, and that upon which in its future Territory depends for value, consists in the development of its mineral wealth. It is pre-eminently a mineral region, capable of sustaining a great mining population. Without enumerating others, silver, gold, and copper seem to be the ores most generally diffused throughout the Territory, and among these silver is the *characteristic*. Silver in combination with gold, copper, lead, and other metals extends in numerous veins of greater or less size and value from the Colorado River, on the west, to the eastern boundary line of the Territory. These have been partly resolved into districts, where, up to this time, mines or lodes of greater value have been discovered grouped together in belts or basins.

The Mineral Park district has a belt of this kind which is reported to be nearly a hundred miles long, carrying, between porphyry walls a mile and a half breadth of productive ore-matter, which is interspersed with veins, principally chlorides of silver. These are said to be very rich, reaching several hundred dollars to the ton. The whole mass is said to carry silver.

The Bradshaw district is said to be full of large, permanent veins, upon some of which mines have been opened that are producing ores of extraordinary value. I mention these as having come more particularly to my knowledge since my arrival, but similar reports are coming in from other parts of the Territory, and more especially from the southeastern extremity, where veins have been opened which give promise of greater richness in gold and silver than any hitherto discovered. In the immediate neighborhood of Prescott are rich mines. Want of transportation and consequent want of population and money, together with the sense of insecurity still existing, have prevented a full knowledge of these lodes as well as a development of those already known.

Left to themselves in the meantime, many settlers, instead of becoming farmers in grain, have become small farmers in gold and silver, locating veins of placer-grounds which they work themselves.

These gold or silver farms, as they may be called, yield a small but sure product, for which any town is the market. In Arizona are found the only instances, within my knowledge, where three or four men working together, without money or outside aid, have managed to develop veins into regular silver mines, which have already yielded several hundred thousand dollars, with a promise of greater success. But these are the solitary examples of opening large mines without money. The "silver farms," as I have designated them, are smaller enterprises. By a moderate use of money in directing and aiding this kind of labor the General Government might come in aid of this industry, and open out a prospect for employment to the large class who, of late years, have been suffering from want of it, and the utmost exertion of whose skill and intelligence has not been able to command a support. Aided by the Government in a way which might be indicated, any man might here find room for his labor, needing only his own resolute, stout work to pick fortune from the earth. But to give full development to the mining interest, large capital must be brought into the Territory. There is not money there to do it. An absolute security in titles and authorized knowledge of the value of mines would go far toward attracting the necessary capital. In this the Government might intervene with advantage to itself as well as to all those concerned in this interest.

Gold in veins and placers is variously found throughout the Territory. Like Missouri and Utah, Arizona has her Iron Mountain, and copper ores of rich character, carrying with them silver and gold, are found in great force. A large percentage of copper is found in the working of silver ores. Many years ago, and before our occupation of the country, I found in Southern Arizona the trails of wagons engaged in transporting copper ore from the Upper Gila to the City of Chihuahua, the silver and gold found in the copper being sufficient to defray the cost of the long and hazardous journey. Notwithstanding the desultory working of the mines, the actual weekly shipments of bullion, by way of Yuma, to California, is about $100,000.

EDUCATION.

The educational system of Arizona is that of our public schools. The governors of the Territory; more particularly Gov. Safford, have made this a special subject, and I learn that it is in admirable condition. There are, I believe, some private schools at the South under direction of the Catholic clergy. The Territory is young, and as yet without revenue for the establishment of charitable institutions. The Boards of Supervisors in the several Counties are authorized by law to provide for poor persons who may be in any way enfeebled or disabled. There is no insane asylum in the Territory. The Governor is authorized to contract with the authorities of the State of California or with the proprietors of any hospital in that State for the proper keeping of the insane of the Territory.

There is a Territorial prison, supported by the Territory, and located by law at Yuma. It is managed by a Board of Territorial penitentiary Directors, who audit claims and make such rules and regulations as they think proper for the discipline and management of the penitentiary.

LEGISLATIVE, ETC.

The Legislative Assembly of Arizona meets biennially at the capital on the first Monday in January. Representation is apportioned according to population, and the members of the Assembly are elected by counties at the general election held throughout the Territory every two years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Every male citizen of the United States and every male citizen of Mexico who shall have elected to become a citizen of the United States under a treaty of peace exchanged and ratified at Queretaro on the 30th day of May, the Saddsen treaty of 1854, and every male person who shall have declared on oath before a competent Court of record his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and shall have taken an oath to support the Constitution and Government of the United States, of the age of 21 years, who shall have been a resident of the Territory one year next preceding the election, and of the County or precinct in which he claims his vote 10 days, and of whose name is enrolled on the great register of such County shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now and may be hereafter authorized by law.

THE INDIANS.

The Yuma, Mojave, and Hualapai Indians live in the eastern and northern parts of the Territory.

The Yuma and Mojave Indians are quiet, poorly armed, and glean a scanty subsistence from the native products and some little agriculture. The *Hualapai* Indians are important from their character. They are the best fighters in the Territory, and were successfully used by Gen. Crook in subduing the Apaches. Lately they have suffered from small-pox, losing 32 of their braves in one week. They are moderately well armed, and just now are restless from want of food. The Chimahuevas are a small nomadic tribe, living to the north in the neighborhood of the San Francisco Mountains. The Pi-Utes are north of the Colorado River scattered over the Basin country. They are of uncertain, treacherous character, and will seize any occasion to rob or murder, when they can do so safely.

Of the Apaches, some five thousand in number, have been concentrated on the San Carlos Reservation. They are probably well armed.

These Indians for many years hung on the frontiers of Mexico, into which they were making continual inroads, and rendered also life and property throughout this Territory very precarious until they were reduced to submission by General Crook. One band of renegades and white men, about five hundred in number, were driven over the border, where they still remain. They are the very worst Indians in or about the Territory. They cross the border at any opportunity to rob the mail or wagon trains, but they do not find it easy to get through our lines. At present there is not food enough for the Indians at the San Carlos Agency, and about 500 have been given leave to go off the reservation to hunt. The Pimas, Maricopas and Papagos are in the southern part of the Territory. These are numerous. The Pimas are the most interesting of all the Indians. They own a very fertile valley on the Gila, and are well supplied with money and arms. The three tribes have probably this year earned some $30,000 by farm products and rude manufactures. The Pimas and Maricopas are now in the midst of our people, who have built up to their valley, and there are already some misunderstandings growing up between them. There are other small tribes or subdivisions of tribes, but my information on the subject is incomplete.

CONTROL OF THE INDIANS.

Insecurity of life and property is among the causes which have retarded the growth of the Territory. For this, among other reasons, I am strongly of the opinion that absolute and plenary control over the Indian tribes in the Territory should be given to the War Department. The direct, immediate, and inevitable responsibility of officers of the army would insure on both sides compliance with duties and obligations. There would be neither spasmodic starvation nor spasmodic outrage. The disposition and movements of the Indians would be constantly known to the commanding officer of the department, and a corres onding vigilance in protection always insured to the people: something essentially necessary in a country where careless panicks and second settlements offer dangerous facilities to an Indian enemy. Under the steady pressure of such a regulated system the Indians could best be brought together in town and farming settlements, and whatever capacity they may have to acquire the habits and do the work of civilized life could best be developed. I think it would be thoroughly successful.

A BIT OF HISTORY.

The condition of the Pima Indians, who have shown themselves among the very best on the continent, could be raised and improved; and the 5,000 Apaches who uselessly occupy land enough to make a small State, would be much happier upon a few hundred thousand acres where every man who would use it could have his square mile. And such a disposition of the Indians would at once do away with a cause of inevitable collision with our settlers. By a system much like this the Franciscan order in California reduced to submission and regulated labor large bodies of Indians. Under the administration of the "*Fathers*" they were brought together in communities and taught to build houses, till the ground, and take care of large herds of horses and cattle. With the Indians as laborers they erected the large churches and mission buildings which stretched along from San Francisco a thousand miles to Cape Saint Lucas. At the mission of San Gabriel alone, still one of the most beautiful spots on the continent, there were more than a hundred thousand head of cattle, and many thousand Indians were employed in fields, orchards, and vineyards, learning the arts of civilized life and practical Christianity. But this was done under the mild and paternal discipline of an order military in its obedience, working with a direct responsibility, and with no other object or interest than the strength and glory of their church. The *esprit de corps* of the army, and their sense of duty to the country could be relied on to work with equal fidelity and produce similar results. When the missions were broken up by the Mexican Government under Santa Anna, the Indians were dispersed to the great valleys of the Sacramento and San Joaquin and the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Before our occupation of the country I found them in great numbers. Every river had its *rancheria* and every little tributary of a spring in the mountains had its village or family of Indians. Since our occupation they have disappeared.

THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

I have already adverted to the drawback which want of transportation has been to this Territory. By its situation Arizona is the natural gateway of commerce and travel between the States east of the Mississipi, and California and the Pacific Ocean. Fronting on Mexico it is in position to profit by any developments which may result from the awakened interest of our merchants and manufacturers in the trade of that country. You will remember that before our civil war Congress had directed examinations for an overland route to the Pacific, to be made on four different lines betwed the 32d and 46th parallels; and upon comparison of results by the War Department the 32d parallel line was declared the best. A bill was accordingly framed adopting this line, and with a large grant of lands and money had already passed one House and was about passing the other, when events occurring in Texas were announced in Congress, and the line of the road thrown to the North: It is interesting to speculate on what might have been, had this Southern line been already built before the war. True to the instincts of commerce the Northern road has swept round through California and is entering Arizona from the West, while other great roads are converging into it from the East and North. Passing together through this *gateway* of Arizona the united roads will enter Mexico by a trunk line which will be nourished by 10,000,000 of people and the sea at Guaymas, while its branches will penetrate the States. This is the commerce which is to develop Arizona, and a railroad connection with the seaport of Guaymas is a necessity to it. Any aid that Congress could be induced to give these railroad enterprises would be repaid manifold to the country in increased revenue from increased commercial activity and the opening of new branches of trade, especially for the rich products of Mexico, and in the great addition to the common wealth by bringing into use that which now remains locked up in the mines of this country.

WATER SUPPLY.

With the object of increasing the water supply, Gov. Fremont suggests the employment of competent persons to examine the structure of the country, and make occasional experiments with the view of indicating to the people the situations and depths at which water, whether by artesian or other means, may be found. An expert distinguished for extraordinary skill in this science procured water for the City of Constantine, in Algeria, which is built on the summit of a lofty, rocky peninsula, 2,000 feet above the level of the Mediterranean, and is accessible on one side only: being on all others begirt by a ravine of 60 feet in breadth and of great depth, at the bottom of which flows the Rummel. This expert found water for the City just beside one of the gates in the wall which surrounds it. He was also employed by the French Government to search for water in the plain of Chalons, where Napoleon III desired to form a large camp, and he succeeded in finding an abundant supply for the proposed camp of 60,000 men. Such a man might convert the deserts of Arizona into the rose fields of Bulgaria.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS.

Coupled with this, measures might be adopted in the interest of the large mining population to be expected—the silver and gold farmers—and as well in the interest of non-residents investing money here, which would spare much fruitless labor to the one and much fruitless expenditure of money to the other. In view of the great importance which this branch of industry is assuming, a moderate expenditure of money for the ends indicated, and half a million of dollars for common roads in the Territory, could be made with very happy results.

The progress of settlement in the Territory south of the Gila River is said to be retarded by the condition of private land titles, which have remained unsettled since the acquisition of the Territory in 1854; now twenty-four years ago. Some legislation on this subject seems very important to close it, and the experience in California land-titles might suggest to Congress some mode of speedy settlement.

This Territory is about equal in area to New York and all our New England States together, excepting Maine, and the labor to be employed in opening it out by rail and common roads, and in developing its wealth by the means suggested, would together give occupation to the 300,000 unemployed people who have not been able to find any field for their labor. Perhaps in this might be found at least a temporary solution of questions which have lately been forcing themselves on the serious consideration of the country.

RESUMPTION.

A Letter from Secretary Sherman to the Honest Money League.

CHICAGO, Jan. 13—The following letter has been received here:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1879.

Thomas M. Nichol, esq., Secretary Honest Money League, Chicago:

DEAR SIR—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, inclosing a copy of the kindly resolution adopted at the meeting of the Honest Money League of the 2nd inst., for which I return my grateful thanks. Resumption, so long struggled for and so eminently beneficial to all interests and all classes, is now secure. There are but two points incident to resumption about which I notice complaint:

First—The non-payment of interest on the public debt in gold coin at cities other than New York.

Second—Criticisms of the distribution of the silver dollar by this department.

To maintain specie payments, the coin must be kept in some central convenient depository, always accessible. The law fixes New York as this point. It is not reasonable, while we promptly redeem our notes and pay the interest on the public debt in New York, that complaint should be made, because the coin is not scattered by being transported at the will of creditors at a considerable cost to other parts of the United States. We must take no distinction between the payment of interest and the redemption of notes, but both should be paid at the same place and in the same way; or we again make the discrimination so much complained of between the note holder and the bond holder. I hope, after some preparation and lapse of time, it may be convenient to exchange coin for notes and pay interest at all the depositories in the United States, and I will seek to bring about that result, not as a matter of legal duty, but for the convenience of citizens.

As to the other matter I have a clear conviction that the forced payment of the silver dollar to public creditors would tend to depreciate it, and cause it at once to be sold in the market at less than par. No friend of the silver dollar should desire it to be forced into circulation under these circumstances. This would open a gap between the silver dollar and the United States notes that would tend to bring it into discredit among our people, while it is plainly the policy of the law that it should be maintained at par with United States notes. The Department is now issuing the silver dollars, transporting them free of charge wherever needed, to all who wish them in exchange for United States notes, or in payment of services, and it is hoped that the whole coinage may thus be put in circulation. While it is the duty of the Government to coin different kinds of money as public policy dictates, it should be within the power of the citizen, at his option, to demand either form of lawful money. It is hoped that the friends of resumption will be satisfied with the beneficent results already accomplished, and will give the Department reasonable forbearance in the practical execution of its plans. I wish those who have hitherto disagreed with us about resumption may join with us in applauding the policy now being maintained. Very respectfully yours, JOHN SHERMAN.

Senator Thurman's Letter.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Senator Thurman has addressed the following letter to Mr. Teller, chairman of the select committee of investigation.

UNITED STATES SENATE CHAMBER, WASHINGTON, Jan. 13, 1879.

DEAR SIR:—Again complying with the request of your committee for information, I have the honor to send you instalment No. 3, to wit:

First—An official-certified copy from the office of the Secretary of State, of Florida, of the affidavit of James H. Paine, showing misconduct and violation of law by a federal official at the late election in Duval county, of that State.

Second—A like certified copy of the affidavit of James M. Whitaker, pertaining to this subject—to the intimidation of Democratic voters by armed Republicans.

Third—A like certified copy of an affidavit by S. C. Tucker, proving that at the late election at Precinct No. 12, Alachua County, the United States Supervisor of Election, N. R Gruelle, insisted that the ballots, as they were cast, should be numbered to correspond with the number of each voter's name as it appeared on the registration list, and that in compliance with his demand the larger part of the ballots were so numbered, and the secrecy of the ballot thus effectually destroyed.

Fourth—A like certified copy of the affidavit of Robert M. Witherspoon County Judge of Madison County, in said State, showing his illegal arrest and detention by the United States Commissioner and the Marshal, in order to prevent the discharge of his duties as one of the Board of Canvassers in the State election in said County.

Fifth—An affidavit of Edward S. Francis, a colored citizen of Duval County, Fla., and member of the Board of County Commissioners of said County, proving intimidation practiced in that State to prevent colored citizens from voting the Democratic ticket.

Sixth—An affidavit of James C. Williamson, a colored citizen of the same county, to the same effect.

Seventh—Certificates of the Sheriff and County Judge of said County, of the President of the City Council of Jacksonville, and of the City Clerk, and of the City Marshal, attesting the good character and standing of said Francis and Williamson.

Eighth—An affidavit of John B. Marshall, of Madison County, Florida, showing misconduct on the part of United States Deputy Marshals, and intimidation practiced by them at the late election in said County.

I have a number of letters from the North and West making specific charges of intimidation and bribery that it may be proper that I should lay before your Committee, but I withhold them until the wishes of the writers in this respect can be ascertained.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. G. THURMAN.

Woman Suffrage.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The committee appointed by the woman suffrage convention held in this City last week consisting of Mrs. Gage, Mrs. Spencer, Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Williams, the two latter from Utah, called on the President this morning and presented a memorial and other papers in relation to female suffrage, and charging that the President had ignored the women of the country in his annual message. They also called the attention of the President to the recent decision of the Supreme Court in relation to polygamous marriages, and to the effect of enforcing the act of 1862, and said it would make thousands of women outcasts, and their children illegitimate. The President said he was deeply impressed by what had been said, and requested that Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Wells make out statements in writing and submit them to him. He wanted all the information on the subject he could procure. They promised to do this, and the President then asked them how he could serve them. The reply was: "By vetoing any bill to enforce the act of 1862."

In answer to the memorial and remarks made in relation to female suffrage, the President said. "You say I have ignored the women in the country in my annual messages. I will carefully consider what you have said, and the papers you have presented me. In my next message I will act according to the dictates of my consciences, and the best light I have."

The Erie.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—The report of the Directors of the Erie Railway Company, just published, shows for the four months, from June 1st to September 30th, 1878: Gross earnings, $5,192,681; net earnings, $1,930,480, or deducting rentals of leased lines, etc., $1,571,060, and after payment of $743,401 interest on the funded debt, a net profit for the four months of $828,546, and net profit for the nine months ending September 30 of $625,431. Besides, the floating debt has been reduced from $4,000,000 in 1877 to $600,000. The continuance of the surplus at this rate gives hopes of a dividend. This result has been reached mainly by a reduction of expenses from 74 per cent. under the old management, to 62 per cent. under the new. The cost of the third rail between Susquehanna and Buffalo has been paid mainly from the net earnings, and the cost of the third rail from Susquehanna to Jersey City paid from money received from assessments. It is expected that an early completion of the connecting road with Boston will give the Erie an additional annual business of $2,000,000, and place the road on an equality as to facilities with the New York Central.

The Markets.

General Produce

TOLEDO, WEDNESDAY MORNING, Jan. 15.—Wheat has been dull and a shade higher, but is now tending downward, quotations being as follows: Spot Amber, 94½c; seller February, 95¾@95¾c; No. 1 White Michigan 94½c; No. 2 Red Wabash, 95c spot; D. & M., 93½c